

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXI.]

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BIRTHS.

On 21st May, at Shanghai, the wife of O. A. MADAR, of a son.
On 23rd May, at Canton, the wife of A. RIGGIO, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On 13th May, at Shanghai, WALTER PATTISON to ELIZABETH, widow of the late THOMAS HENRY HARDS, both of Shanghai.
On 20th May, at Shanghai, FRANCISCO XAVIER SAVARD-REMEDIOS, son of the late Mr. B. F. REMEDIOS, of Hongkong, to FRANCISCA MARIA TAVARES, daughter of PEDRO JACINTO TAVARES.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of 25th April arrived, per the s.s. *Zieten*, on Wednesday, the 24th instant; and the French Mail of 28th April is expected to arrive, per s.s. *Caledonien*, some time to-morrow.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Since March 21st, 12,733 coolies have left Amoy for the Straits Settlements.

The Emperor and Empress of Japan on May 2nd subscribed ten thousand yen to the funds of the Y.M.C.A.

Mr. Cecil Clementi, assistant Registrar General, has been appointed Police Magistrate and assistant Land Officer for the New Territories.

The yield of rice of Japan for last year has been estimated at 51,430,221 koku, which shows an increase of 4,956,923 koku over that for the preceding year.

A branch of the San Francisco Academy of music is opening at Shanghai in October. A local advisory board, including the Chairman of the Municipal Council, has been appointed.

The new American Minister to Peking, Mr. W. W. Rookhill, accompanied by his wife and daughter, proceeds from Shanghai in the U.S. cruiser *Baltimore*. He was disabled for social gatherings at Shanghai by an attack of gout.

The Chinese Minister of Education has memorialized that a law should be introduced restraining the people from marriage under twenty years of age, and making a certain period of schooling compulsory before marriage.

The Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Company's tug *Robert K.* sailed from Manila for Shanghai on May 20th with the hulk *Isla de Mindanao* in tow. The latter is the last of the old Spanish gunboats which have been sold to Chinese concerns.

The Tientsin Customs made a seizure of 100 mauser pistols and about 50,000 rounds of ammunition at Tangku on May 10th. They were packed in ordinary travelling trunks and beer barrels, and were landed from the steamer *Tsintau*.

It may not be true, but it is being reported in Japan that Russia is seeking to sell three of her biggest state-owned railways. Russia's "uncle," at the *mont de piété* having failed to oblige, the "hard-up" client appears to be seeking an auctioneer.

Shanghai now has so many motor cars that a parade and prize show is to be held on the 27th instant. Some idea of the general public's attitude is obtainable from our contemporary's remark that "the public will be relieved to hear that there is to be no racing."

The *N.-C. Daily News* published this telegram:—"Tientsin, 19th May. The dispute over the championship culminated in a bout of fistichuffs between the owner of the second pony and another owner, in the Tientsin Club. The Germans threaten to secede from the Club."

Feng Ch'uan, said to have been murdered by Tibetans, was the Chinese Assistant Resident, not the Resident-in-chief. He was until a few months ago Prefect of Yachou, on the western border. It is suggested that his policy of "squeeze" enraged the Tibetans; and that he committed suicide when attacked by them.

A Berlin "special" telegram flourished by the indefatigable *Cablenews* on 18th May states that the Berlin officials formally deny "that Germany has seized the port of Kiaochau"! The *Cablenews* explains that all the Germans want is "a railway concession from that port." We can add our assurance that they have not seized it recently.

Some London papers seem to await Primrose Day with eagerness to prick the bubble of the harmless vanity of "the Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., Hongkong." He always decorates the Beaconsfield memorial, and attaches his card. With equal regularity, these journals inform the public that a Colonial "Honourable" does not count outside the colony.

From February 5th, 1904, to May 10th, 1905, the Japanese have seized 55 vessels (tonnage 135,889), of which only eleven were released. Japan is, therefore, enriched by 108,300 tons of shipping (44 vessels). Fifteen of these are Russian, sixteen British, one French, five German, one Dutch, two Austrian, two Swedish, one Norwegian, and one American.

Weeks & Co., Ltd., of Shanghai, is paying a final dividend of six per cent., making a nine per cent. return for the year.

A fisherman from Pak Lok village in the New Territory was taken to the Government Civil Hospital by the Police on 28th May in a sadly shattered state. He was catching fish on Saturday afternoon by the dangerous method of dynamiting them, and his last charge going off before he could get rid of it, blew out his eyes, badly shattered his face and tore off his hands. He is not expected to recover.

The *Daily News* at Shanghai understands that among the tramway tenders is one that includes a proposal to purchase the Council's electric lighting station and plant for the sum of 1½ million taels, which stand in the Council's books at something under Tls. 700,000. Our contemporary believes that, as the Council consider that the sale of the Electricity Department by them would be *ultra vires*, it is intended to call a special meeting at which the ratepayers may, if they see fit, give the Council the necessary authority.

The new German Post Office at Shanghai was opened on May 15th. The *Daily News* says:—"The new building, which has been erected from designs by Mr. H. Becker, as architect, working in conjunction with Mr. Puche, the Superintendent of German postal business for the whole of China, will serve not only as the Shanghai office, but as the head quarters of the China Superintendent. It is in the Renaissance style, which seems so suited to the Shanghai climate, is three stories high, with attics above, and has excellent frontages both to Foochow and Szechuen roads."

A Peking telegram to the *Shanghai Times*, dated 14th May, says:—"At the request of the Viceroy of Yunnan the Boards of Foreign Affairs and of Commerce have approved of the proposal to open up new markets, or treaty ports in that province. Both these Boards have agreed to submit a conjoint memorial to the throne on the subject. The Viceroy of Yunnan and Kiachon Province has telegraphed to the Waiwupu that France is attempting to establish administrative control in the district of Meng-tze and he requests the authorities to strongly protest against the action of the French officials. The *Times* feels assured that the Viceroy has been misinformed and that what he believes to be an attempt to establish administrative control, is merely a movement on the part of officials in connection with the Tongkin Yunnan Railway."

COLLISION IN SHANGHAI RIVER.

AUSTRIAN STEAMER BEACHED.

SHANGHAI, 26th May.

The Austrian steamer *Maria Valerie*, outward bound, while crossing the Woosung Bar last night, was run into amidships by the British steamer *Pingsuey*.

The *Maria Valerie* was afterwards safely docked. The *Pingsuey* was uninjured.

PORTUGUESE AND FILIPINOS.

(Daily Press 20th May.)

Arising out of what we believed to have been a mere school boy squabble, we have received a startling communication, which appears to us of sufficient importance to demand further investigation. A trustworthy Portuguese gentleman, whose letter appears elsewhere, has submitted for our inspection a lethal weapon, and told us a story about it, which we regret very much to have seen and heard. In vouching for his trustworthiness, we mean that within customary human limitations we can rely upon the truth of all he says; allowing after that for the ex parte sympathy that his nationality compels him to give to one side as against the other. The pregnant points of his story are these, that in one of our most popular and useful international colleges there is an almost constant feud between the boys of two races, that purely racial quarrels are quite frequent, and that some of the fighters are in the habit of carrying lethal weapons. That is to say, that at St. Joseph's College, the allegation is that the Portuguese and Filipino pupils cannot agree, and that some Portuguese parents are alarmed for their offspring now that they believe that some of the Filipino students carry knives of a sort for which no other purpose is conceivable but attack. During a recent fracas, it is alleged that a clasp-knife was taken from a Filipino youth at the moment that he had raised to strike. It is a big, round-handled affair, with a broad, spear-shaped blade and, so far as we can see, of no use for anything but thrusting. With it, the owner could have cut nothing, although he might have managed a fatal stab or hara-kiri operation. The blade is four and a half inches long, and considerably over an inch broad at its widest; and it is sharpened like a spear, a pocket assegai, in fact. What does a boy, even a Filipino boy, want with a weapon like that in Hongkong? We feel sure that the Brothers at the College would be distressed to think any of their pupils carried such things. Our correspondent suggests that as the owner was a boarder at St. Joseph's, the supervision there cannot be very strict; but this comment we do not endorse. Such incidents are not helpful to the college, however; and we feel sure that the trouble will now be thoroughly sifted. We are informed that at present considerable feeling exists in the Portuguese community, which, in the case of our correspondent, takes the form of regarding the Filipinos as dangerous interlopers. He is, of course, wrong in supposing that St. Joseph's was intended solely for Portuguese and Chinese Catholics. Although at one time the flow of Filipino immigrants was not foreseen, we take it that no College under the aegis of the parent Christian Church makes any racial barrier. All human beings within the great family of the Pope are, presumably, eligible and entitled to send their children there for training so long as there is available accommodation. American evidence goes to show that the Filipino still needs a lot of civilising; but, on the other hand, there is more than one kind, and we have been led to suppose that most of those who settled in Hongkong were quite a superior class, far removed from barbarism, having, in fact, mostly absorbed the teachings of the Church. If, as the writer of the letter suggests, it is still the nature of some of them to resort to the *cuchillo* to settle their differences, we hope that no time will be lost by the Brothers, and by our own authorities, in making it plain that such a practice is out

of date, and not permissible, at least in this Colony. Of course there is still the other side of the story to tell; and we would be glad, indeed, to hear something that would remove the painful impression left by the murderous implement exhibited.

SZECHUAN AND YUNNAN.

(Daily Press, 22nd May.)

The riches of Szechuan have often been dangled alluringly before us by Mr. HOSIE; but even the proposals of Sir JOHN LISTER KAYE, for overcoming the obstacles to navigation of the Yangtze above Ichang, did not seem to bring those riches within practicable distance. The costly, risky, and very slow progress of any kind of ladder craft through the upper gorges of the famous waterway must be, even under the most favourable conditions possible, a barrier to any adequate or steady stream of trade. It is, therefore, with considerable interest that we read of the results of Lieutenant-Colonel MANIFOLD's exploration of the upper basin of the Yangtze. After four or five years surveying and investigating, in company with a carefully selected party, Lieutenant-Colonel MANIFOLD has informed the Royal Geographical Society that it is quite feasible for the railway engineer to successfully tap what he calls "one of the earth's richest regions." Under the present difficult conditions, British textiles and Indian yarn to the value of £2,150,000 (or ninety per cent. of the whole imports) managed in one recent year to reach the eager fifty millions of prosperous Szechuanese. This, however, according to the enthusiastic officer, was merely touching the fringe of Szechuan demand; and the question immediately arises, can British enterprise be stirred to act before it is too late? Lieutenant-Colonel MANIFOLD noticed that the natives were friendly, the old anti-foreign feeling apparently done away with, and already there were frequent evidences of the presence and enterprise of non-British foreigners. Although the Chinese authorities up there seem to have taken a fair share in the task of removing native prejudice against foreign goods, a prejudice now replaced by a consuming anxiety to obtain the previously tabooed articles, we cannot entertain much hope that they will smooth the way for a much needed British railway. It is not only the always apparent *vis inertiae* of Chinese officialdom that is to be reckoned with. In the case of railway enterprise they may almost be counted upon for active opposition. In theory, their idea that the Chinese themselves should own the railways and reap the profits is eminently praiseworthy; but as we know that in effect such enterprise left to them might be looked for during the Greek kalends, we are bound to regard their probable attitude as "dog-in-the-manger-ish." On top of all that, there is the handicap of political jealousy, the sort of jealousy, for instance, which caused the Anglo-French mutual undertaking to seek "no exclusive advantage, privilege, or monopoly either in the province of Szechuan or in the adjoining province of Yunnan." Supposing that both nations adhere slavishly to such a ridiculous stumbling block in the path of both, the dog will more than ever fill the manger. Each will cast longing eyes upon the bundle of hay, and, so to speak, starve while the wholesome fodder is allowed to rot. There is, happily, a possibility, now that the Entente exists and apparently endures, of England and France agreeing to some sensible joint procedure in this matter; and we earnestly hope that the

respective statesmen will see where mutual duties and mutual advantages are offering in Western China; and proceed to make hay while the sun shines. French enterprise is already very busy between Indo-China and Yunnan; but Yunnan's prosperity hangs to a great extent upon that of Szechuan. The French line to Yunnan, a most costly undertaking, would be immensely appreciated in value if Szechuan were opened up. If France and England were to lay their heads together, to offer satisfactory assurances to China that the enterprise is void of all political ulterior motives, we should see in the development of the West a remarkable impetus to general trade. The necessary rapid prochement was forthcoming in the case of Siam and her loan. It would be just as easy in the case of this desirable movement. The "French genius for initiative" and the "British business capacity" should go well in double harness. It is quite evident, from the existing spread of the Anglo-French entente cordiale as already reported, that we are postulating no impossible arrangement. We do not dream; no visions are about. The only point to emphasise is that there is no time like the present. It is, for the benefit of all parties, including China, a case of "the sooner the better."

THE TREATMENT OF ALIENS.

(Daily Press, 23rd May.)

The question of alien immigration at the British capital has been lifted into the position of one of the most important moot subjects of the year. The British Premier declares that the British "are amply justified in determining the conditions under which we will or will not admit the citizens of other nations." America claims a like right by deeds as well as words, and thereby sets mercantile China by the ears. Australia, labour ridden, has long been notorious for its pronounced views on the subject. British Columbia tried to emulate its American neighbours. An old Hongkong resident, apparently hot in the midst of the London campaign, suggests that it is our duty to begin a similar agitation in Hongkong. There are doubtless some British tradesmen and other subjects who, feeling the stress of business competition, would approve of such a movement locally; but except in the way of restricting the immigration of the "beachcomber" class, we do not at present see any necessity to take up such a position. So far, the arguments of those who resent the presence in London of foreigners, so far as they have come under our notice, have failed to enlist our sympathy with the agitators. It is true that the alien population of the United Kingdom is only 300,000, England has the lowest percentage of aliens in Europe. That a great number of those 300,000 congregate in London must make their presence a conspicuous fact; but it does not prove that they are doing any excessive amount of harm. It is recorded that only two per cent. of these foreigners obtain poor law relief, while the percentage of the whole forty two millions receiving relief is put as high as eight per cent. That these humble guests are "sweated" does not prove that they are taking bread from English mouths, since without their particularly cheap labour many of the "sweaters" would presumably not be in business. On ethical grounds, the general question is not easy to debate. It is simply a matter of politics, in which we entirely agree with Mr. BALFOUR's statement of right. America and Australia exclude coloured labour frankly on grounds of self interest; and if

the English people can be satisfied that it is to their best interests to make it difficult for foreigners to come in, they have every right to do so. Whether it is to their interest to shut out all aliens is, however, a doubtful question, the answer to which they ought to be very sure of before committing themselves. It used to be a national boast that England, the home of a free people, was an asylum for any oppressed ones. So America was, also, but they apparently consider in the States that some races are born to be oppressed. Here in Hongkong, where every Chinaman of today may be counted as an alien immigrant, or the son of alien immigrants (who had to be coaxed in and persuaded to settle by the Government), it is impossible for white workers to compete in many departments of labour. Yet business prospers on this cheap labour; and it cannot be said here, as is being said in London, that "the employment of the labour of those whose cheap and low methods of living force the Briton into a competition for existence causes poverty, crime and general degeneracy!"

THE MACKAY TREATY.

(Daily Press, 24th May.)

It is abundantly evident from facts recently recorded that the China merchants who accused the Peking Government of general breach of the MACKAY Treaty were right; and that Earl PERCY, who poo-pooed their complaints on behalf of the British Government, was wrong, and very wrong. That the provisions of that Treaty, with respect to mining regulations, have been set at defiance is notorious. The British officials, with a disgraceful obstinacy, demanded "specific instances," and the official correspondence just published meets that demand in the case of foreign mining enterprise. To ask for specific complaints at all in connection with China's wide and unequivocal undertaking to encourage (for that is what it amounts to) foreign mining enterprise, was an impertinence. Either China has fulfilled her pledge, or she has not; and any specific statement on this head should have come from the British officials, not from the merchants. How are we to satisfy the British Government that China has not, as promised, done anything in the direction of currency reform? By sending samples of the various new coinage mixtures since introduced? Have we no right to expect that British officials in China should for themselves ascertain whether China keeps faith with their employers or not? There must be something rotten about the system when such a position is possible as that we have recently witnessed. Private British citizens call attention to an important international contract, the terms of which are so plain that they cannot be misunderstood. Those promises by China were for "value received." Those promises were not kept. British officials receive the complaint to this effect, not sympathetically, but by raising obstacles in the way of its forwarding to headquarters. It does, however, reach the right place, thanks to private enterprise; and is met by a request for specific instances. The idea does not appear to be "We are grateful for your help. Can you oblige us with further information?" That would be very satisfactory; but the purport and tone of the official response seems to have been, "Give us proofs, or we refuse to hear your views." When we warn an individual that an attempt is being made to pick his pocket, we do not expect him to demand of us specific grounds for our belief that the

warning was necessary. That becomes his affair. In the subject matter, China merchants are too much interested, however, to be affronted by official rebuffs and lack of sympathy. Specific instances will be forthcoming. At present it would seem that the Government has enough to go upon. The Hankow Consulate and the Legation at Peking have known for a long time how Article VIII., relating to the opening of Changsha, &c., was being ruptured. That the clause may be said to have lapsed does not affect the issue, because the Japanese secured a renewal of the particular undertaking to throw open Changsha two years ago. Mr. BYRON BRENNAN tells us that when new ports are opened, British enterprisers do not flock into them. Perhaps there is a reason for this. Perhaps British enterprise waits for the British Government to be more businesslike in enforcing payment of its bills. We have referred before to the native opposition at Changsha to foreign hongs; but our Shanghai contemporary unfolds some further history by way of specific example. It appears that the British Consul-General at Hankow did not regard a treaty with great Britain as a dead-letter. He pressed the claims of Mr. BENNETZ for compensation, which claims were also recognised and pressed by the Legation. It may be that in order to furnish further specific examples, Mr. BENNETZ tried to reopen business at Changsha. At any rate, he arrived on April 14th last. He reports:

"After carefully consulting with H. M. Consul, I prepared to take my cargo into my premises in the city of Changsha on the 18th of April, after duly getting the same passed through the I. M. Customs, and paying the wharfage dues. I took delivery of them from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's godown outside of the city, and engaged fifty coolies to carry the first consignment into the city. On arrival of the goods at the city gate, the keeper and likin authorities in charge stopped the goods from proceeding to my premises, stating that I must pay likin and should take the cargo back to the likin station and pay the likin, then only would they allow them in. During that short period of conversation, what with fifty coolies and thirty-five packages of heavy cargo, and thousands of roughs and other Chinese that gathered round me, the shouting of the likin station authorities to my coolies stating that they would be punished for bringing goods without passing the likin, the situation was not at all a pleasant one. Still I stood firm and did not move an inch; simply told the authorities in charge that I would either pass through the city gate with my cargo free of likin, or they could take charge of same. As they did not allow me through, I dropped all the thirty-five packages inside the city gate, took away all my coolies to my hong in the city, and paid them their dues. The matter is at present referred to the Minister, and I am again waiting without a cash of indemnity yet paid for the stoppage of my business now since July 1904 up to date." Our contemporary says it is "a well-known fact" that similar cases are occurring elsewhere. We agree that this one case is fairly typical of how much a treaty with China is worth unless British officials and the British Government show a united front. It is to be hoped that the House of Commons may not be bamboozled much longer into the belief that the MACKAY Treaty is or ever has been operative.

Section 23 of the new Philippines Tariff Act provides "that where imported materials on which duties have been paid are used in the manufacture or production of articles manufactured or produced in the Philippine Islands, there shall be allowed on the exportation of such articles a drawback equal in amount to the duties paid on the materials used, less one per cent. of such duties."

THE JAPANESE HOUSE-TAX DECISION.

(Daily Press, 25th May.)

The decision just rendered by the Hague Tribunal in the matter of the dispute between the Japanese Government and the foreign communities in Japan will doubtless be loyally accepted by Japan as an authoritative interpretation of her treaty obligations. The dispute arose five years ago over the interpretation of a clause in the Revised Treaties concluded with the Powers for the surrender of "extra-territoriality"—that is to say, the surrender of the governmental and judicial jurisdiction of the Foreign Powers over their respective subjects in Japan. Under these Treaties the old Foreign Settlements were incorporated with the respective Japanese communes to form part of the general municipal system of Japan. But while the Japanese authorities assumed all municipal obligations and duties in respect thereof, and the common funds and property (if any) belonging to such Settlements were transferred to the Japanese authorities, the Treaties contained a stipulation which may at first sight be regarded as somewhat hard on the Japanese municipalities, but when everything is considered it must be allowed that the negotiators of the Treaties were justified by the circumstances in demanding such a concession as this disputed clause was alleged by the foreign communities to confer. In the British treaty, which was the first to be concluded, the clause reads as follows:—"When such incorporation [of the Settlement areas] takes place, existing leases in perpetuity under which property is now held in the said Settlements shall be confirmed and no conditions whatever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property." These perpetual leases were granted by the Japanese Government directly to individual foreigners when the treaty ports were opened, and the holding was in every respect a full title except that it was conditioned on the annual paying to the Government of a so-called "ground rent." It has been contended on behalf of the foreign lot-holders that this "ground-rent" was not a payment made by a tenant for the land, but for all municipal purposes, and this view is fully borne out by local conventional agreements between the central Government and the landowners wherein it is expressly mentioned that the ground-rent was fixed at a figure which would pay annually the amount of the land tax then levied on adjoining lands, and the municipal charges of the foreign community. The argument of the lot-holders has been that the "ground rent" they paid was a commuted land and municipal tax.

When, however, the Revised Treaties came into force the municipalities began to levy on the property holders in the former Settlements the same heavy municipal taxes on business and incomes received from these properties as were levied in other wards of the administrative district. British property owners, relying on the wording of the British Treaty, protested that the municipalities were debarred by Treaty from levying these taxes, and this contention was clearly sustained by the French Treaty which specifically provided that no imposts, taxes, charges, contributions or conditions whatsoever other than the amount of the annual commuted tax reserved in the original grant under the name of the ground-rent should be levied or made on account of these properties. The Japanese Government however, held

that the word "property" in the British Treaty meant *land* only, as no houses existed when the grants were made by the Government and the ground-rent fixed for all time. It is only necessary to turn, however, to the early Conventional Agreements relating to these Settlements and especially to the history of the Foreign Settlement of Yokohama to perceive the weakness of the contention; but the Government nevertheless insisted on its refusal to recognise the buildings on the Settlement land as being protected by the treaty. The foreign land renters refused to pay any taxes on their land and buildings other than the fixed annual tax they had previously paid, and the local authorities had to disburse in a large number of cases for the money. A grave situation was developing when the Japanese Government agreed to a reference of the dispute to the Hague Tribunal which has been considering the matter since November last. The decision unreservedly upholds the contention of the land renters to the fullest extent. According to REUTER'S summary of the Judgment, it is held that the protection of the Treaty belongs not only to the houses now existing on the old sites of the former Settlements, but to all buildings which may in future be erected there.

While the municipalities of Yokohama, Kobe and Nagasaki are deprived of the very substantial addition to the revenue that they have been confidently anticipating, a consideration of the evidence offered by the foreign communities in support of their attitude can only excite surprise that in face of it all the Japanese Government could have expected from an impartial tribunal any other decision than that which has now been given. Meanwhile owing to the refusal of the Japanese authorities to register the buildings with the land, titles have been rendered questionable and the market value of the properties is stated to have been greatly reduced. The Japanese have looked at the question as one affecting their national dignity and independence, but as the clause in dispute merely protects and guarantees the integrity of earlier grants made by the Government we fail to see that any indignity or sacrifice of independence is involved. On the other hand, we consider that had the Japanese Government's contention been upheld a very grave injustice would have been inflicted upon the owners of property in the former Foreign Settlement areas of Japan. Happily, this unfortunate dispute has been waged with every appearance of good temper on both sides, and though the decision is doubtless disappointing to the Japanese Government, we feel confident that nothing will be done to further imperil the good relations which subsist between the Japanese and the foreign communities in their midst.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Daily Press, 26th May.)

Seldom can there have been delivered from the gubernatorial dais a more pregnant speech than that to which our legislators listened yesterday. Some of the first words uttered in this Colony by Sir MATTHEW NATHAN had concern with that "long-felt want," the Kowloon-Canton Railway. In connection with this scheme, by common consent described as of vital importance to the continued commercial existence of the island, it can be said with marked aptitude that hope deferred has made many hearts sick. That comic despair which some men assume to conceal real disappointment was in evidence whenever the subject of the

Kowloon-Canton Railway was broached. Even after His Excellency's introductory address, in which he promised to take a particular personal interest in the prosecution of the enterprise, we had it in mind that no doubt the new Governor meant well; but we looked forward to the devoutly wished consummation as some look for the millennium, or as the possessor of a Macao lottery ticket looks forward to winning the first prize. There seemed several thousands to one against. Future historians of Hongkong will undoubtedly have to write down Sir MATTHEW NATHAN as the man who did things. This saying is prompted by profound conviction; we have no pleasure in yielding to the need for such an expression, simply because we dislike the complexion of flattery thus given to our comments. We could dilute the praise by mentioning that we do not admire his homilies to school children; but it should not be necessary to establish our sincerity by dragging in matters entirely irrelevant. Let us repeat then, as a sober, deliberate opinion, that in possessing a Governor who acts as well as talks, this Colony is at the present time extremely, and, we might almost add, unusually fortunate. Just how much we are indebted to His Excellency's personal efforts for the progress made we shall probably discover later. In the meantime, the official announcement that a party of surveyors engaged to locate the line within British territory is actually on its way to Hongkong (having left on the 12th May) is sufficiently promising and definite to demand applause. We trust that the current negotiations with Peking will be given the same strict attention that is now being bestowed upon the general business of the Colony.

Another matter mentioned in the Governor's speech has been relegated to the twentieth day position of a nine day's wonder, but the introduction of amendments to the vagrancy ordinance will revive interest in "the beachcomber question." We have not yet had an opportunity of studying the amendments; but on a future occasion hope to comment usefully thereon. The outlines as given by the Governor are at once satisfactory and unsatisfactory. There is real need for making the House of Detention a less desirable Loafing Asylum, while those who are found to be in difficulties through "no fault of their own" are, thanks to the generosity of the Governor and his friends, amply provided for. That opinion is to be read in conjunction with our previously expressed conviction that the number of such unfortunates will not be found too formidable to deal with. The part about which we feel some uneasiness is that which provides for the "discouraging the landing of men in the Colony likely to become destitute within a short time of their arrival there." It all depends how and by whom this probability is to be decided. Is every arrival who possesses less than a fixed minimum amount of money "likely to become destitute?" There are other forms of capital, notably energy and brains, which should be taken count of by the parties responsible for restricting undesirable immigration. Obviously, the putting into practice of such restrictions promises to be a most delicate task; and the terms of the new ordinance ought to be well and carefully weighed. It will not do to be guided over much by the examples of such places as Manila, for instance. Probably all the ends of the agitators would be achieved by stricter treatment of the undesirables, for local customs are well advertised among these gentry.

BRITISH NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

Daily Press, 27th May.

It ought to be exceedingly gratifying to the public to learn that, at last, the British Admiralty is beginning to realise the world-wide radius of action of our navy in time of war. Hitherto all naval manœuvres have taken place around the shores of Great Britain, with the fleets manœuvring over a very limited area and with every possible local facility for coal-ing, docking and communicating intelligence. The instruction gained annually by the officers and men under these circumstances has necessarily been as limited as the radius of operations, in so far as practical experience of real warfare is concerned, i.e., warfare with a foreign naval power. Instruction has extended little beyond the practice given to the officers in working their ships in conjunction with the other ships of the fleet. LORD CHARLES BERESFORD, who, notwithstanding much that is believed to the contrary, has done as much as, if not more than, any other admiral towards the improvement of the fighting efficiency of the British Navy; has laid it down that, in case of war, our fleet must "seek out and destroy" those of the enemy. This, obviously, cannot be effected by hugging the shores of England, Ireland and Scotland, as has been the practice in past years' schemes for naval manœuvres. Further, the object of every drill and of all peace manœuvres should be to so teach and accustom the men to the conditions which would exist in wartime, that they may get the best possible results from their weapons and ships when the time comes for real action. If the movements taught by and lessons learnt from our naval manœuvres give cramped notions of space, time and facilities for this or that movement, it is time that a change should take place without further delay. To judge from a good deal that we read, the number of those in Great Britain who imagine that their own three islands constitute the only portion of the world that matters seems still to be great. Greater Britain is a meaningless phrase to those of whom KIPLING wrote:

"What do they know of England, who only England know?"

Fortunately, Imperial affairs are not yet entirely managed by people with the same mental limitations that prompted the Chinese to boast of a "Middle Kingdom." Fleet Street may be the hub of the universal wheel; but there are those able to recognise that the progress of the Imperial vehicle would be slow if its wheels consisted only of a hub and a projecting spoke or two. SIR JOHN FISHER in naval matters has been strengthening the tyre; and the 1905 plan of naval manœuvres is another evidence of the passing of the old carpet school. The general scheme, then, of the Admiralty this year is to suppose a naval war in progress. This would naturally affect every ship of every English fleet in the world! and the scheme proposed supposes this to be the case. All ships—excepting those employed in the Red Sea—will consider themselves in a state of war. There will be ships told off to a Red Side and a Blue Side and universal manœuvres will take place and end on receipt of telegraphic instructions from the Admiralty. Of course there are many minor details of the scheme, but these are the broad principles of the manœuvres for this year—manœuvres which it is hoped will prove interesting and instructive to the navy itself, ever ready as it is to enthusiastically carry out any orders which may conduce to its advancement in practical skill and utility to the Nation.

HONGKONG VAGRANCY ORDINANCE.

(Daily Press, 29th May.)

The object of the proposed amendments to the Vagrancy Ordinance is a reasonable one; but in looking up the "principal ordinance" we cannot but be struck by the thought that had it always been acted upon, there would have been no recent outcry about the spread of vagrancy, and no apparent need for the Bill now before the Legislative Council. The object of the Bill, as tersely expressed by the Attorney General, Mr. E. H. SHARP, is "to reduce the evil of the vagrancy of able-bodied men in this colony." Ask a policeman how it is that one meets so many able-bodied beggars, and hears of so few prosecutions; and the intelligent officer will probably explain that the beachcombers are so cunning that it is almost impossible to catch them in flagrante delicto. If a constable sees a suspicious looking person accost a citizen, it is ten to one that the citizen, undesirous of being involved in Court proceedings, will screen the man, and refuse to say that he was begging. Hence, we understand, the comparative immunity which led to an increase of the nuisance and the recent general outcry. But if section 5 of the Principal Ordinance had been kept in strict operation, there would have been no increase and but few complaints. It says, "Any Police Officer may require any person who is apparently a vagrant to accompany him or any other Police Officer to, and to appear before, a Magistrate." This clause is noteworthy because it is more severe towards suspects than English legal principles usually permit. If our interpretation of it be correct, that any policeman is justified in arresting any person who has the appearance, in his eyes, of a vagrant, then the onus is laid upon the arrested person to satisfy the magistrate that he is not a vagrant, although he may look like one. If instructions were issued to the Police to act upon this existing clause, and indemnifying them against all blame for any reasonable error of judgment, we should soon find that the ranks of the pestering beachcombers would be agreeably thinned. The noise of it would travel abroad, and undesirables would think twice about coming to a place where they are liable to be arrested for merely looking like vagrants. At the same time, it would not do to allow the present attractiveness of the House of Detention to exist. Detention is not much of a bugbear to a man who wants to be detained from work; but, as we know, detention has been something of a misnomer in this case. The detained ones were released from detention that they might go to look for employment. How they utilised these hours of search is no secret. Instead of looking for "something to do," they hunted for "someone to do," and during the hunt caused grievous annoyance to people who objected to be "done." This is where the new Bill demands approval. It proposes to repeal section 11, which gave beachcombers the status of "prisoners detained on remand"; it revises the diet scale; and best of all, an amendment we recommended some time ago, it makes the detained vagrant subject to "penal labour." Were it possible to obtain reliable statistics to put our prophecy to the test, we would not hesitate to say that the mere publication of this latter intention will diminish the number of candidates for the House of Detention. One of our contemporaries, inspired, we believe, by a vagrant who certainly gained his experience by his own fault, protested that it was not just to make a

person "guiltless of crime" wear a distinctive dress. Surely wilful vagrancy is criminal, and such additional degree of degradation ought not to be resented by men who have allowed themselves, with open, seeing eyes, to sink so low as to become liable thereto. When every policeman realises that it is his duty, and quite safe and proper for him, to arrest every "apparent vagrant," when every magistrate carefully enquires and satisfies himself concerning the position of those brought before him, whether they be deserving of recommendation to the Benevolent Fund or of committal to the House of (Work and) Detention, then we shall hear very little about the need of "doing something" for the army of "unfortunate" rascals who have hitherto been attracted by our reputation for good natured and unenquiring philanthropy. With regard to the proposed amendment to section 22, although the ATTORNEY GENERAL declares that it "fails, in its present form, to accomplish its purpose," we cannot agree that it has been given a fair trial. Ship masters would have been less careless if their conduct in importing beachcombers had been subject to more rigorous inquisition. This view, however, does not detract at all from the value of the amendment, which proposes to require that the shipmaster must satisfy himself that his passenger has employment to go to, or has a sum of not less than fifty dollars. Whereas before a shipmaster could relieve himself of responsibility, we presume, by giving his passenger a few dollars, sufficient to relieve him of the accusation of being "destitute," it is unlikely that fifty dollars will be so paid in evasion of the Ordinance. The necessity of holding such a sum in reserve is unlikely to be a bar to many desirable immigrants; and shippers and other agencies would warn would-be travellers to Hongkong of the law's requirements. On the whole, therefore, this Bill is a very deserving measure, and calculated to remedy an evil that undoubtedly exists. We hope it will please the good people who called upon the Government to "provide for" our beachcombing brothers.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

22nd May.

War without and war within! Not only are the dogs of war loose in the China sea, but here in Hongkong the bold but small army of Paladins are on the warpath. Reporters complain bitterly of the breach of neutrality committed by officials at the Magistracy and the action of the new A.D.C. to the General Officer Commanding has fanned the smouldering spark into the flame of open revolt. From all accounts, the scribe whose duty takes him to the Police Court, is treated little better there than the peasant in much vexed Russia, over zealous officialdom throwing up all the barricades in the path of the ubiquitous one that ingenuity can invent. Possibly these petty annoyances mean *Sic itur ad astra* for the energetic staff at the Magistracy.

Truly, this is a season of mythological research, and the arrival of the Baltics East of Suez is furnishing the mythographer with many quaint stories. Every ship dropping anchor in the harbour, provided she is not generally known by the public, is always reported ready to make a dash to join one of the belligerent fleets—usually the Russian. Generally, she is laden with coal or provisions, and in her dash for the open is stopped by a man-of-war. Perhaps the most absurd story gaining currency is the reported arrival of the Baltics at Macao. They were sighted on Saturday by a number of river boats and reported to have called there for provisions. Admiral Rozhdestvensky refused to leave when ordered to do so by a Portuguese

gunboat, so that, continued rumour, France is not the only nation implicated in the neutrality embroglio.

Residents at the Peak appear to be suffering this year from a plague of mosquitoes and a few other unusual things in the natural history line. Centipedes of phenomenal size have been killed recently in several houses at the Peak. The early rains and fogs are believed to be responsible for the swarming of mosquitoes, and the presence of the centipedes in unusual numbers may be attributed to the same cause.

We are within sight of two public holidays—Empire Day on the 24th inst, and Whit-Monday, three weeks hence. There will doubtless be excursion steamers running to Macao, but a correspondent inquires whether it would not pay one of the steamboat companies to run a steamer somewhere else for a change—say to Mirs Bay. I refer the suggestion to the steamboat companies for their consideration.

A Colonial Exhibition is now open at the Crystal Palace, London, but neither Hongkong nor the Straits Settlements appear to be officially represented there. The Exhibition covers the whole of the ground-floor of the Palace, and all the available space was long ago allotted. "The exhibits consist principally of the products of the different Colonies." What are the products of Hongkong? There are some wits who would say that the products of this Colony will not bear exhibition.

Hongkong continues to be the "dumping ground" of the East for people whose presence is not desired in other ports. I notice that a Marine Court of Inquiry at Kobe has ordered some sailors charged with insubordination to be sent to Hongkong. And here if they cannot be shipped off at once—not a very likely event judging by the number of seamen who appear to be "on the beach" here at the present time—they will become candidates for the benefits under the scheme worked by the Ladies' Benevolent Society.

News is hourly expected as to the result of the operations for the salvage of the French armoured cruiser *Sully*. When the pontoon built by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company went down to the scene of the wreck, it was expected that the *Sully* would be floated by the 20th inst. It would be a serious matter for France to lose the *Sully*, one of the latest and best types of armoured cruiser in the French navy. She was only completed last year at a cost of £954,000. If she is successfully floated the probability is that she will be brought to Hongkong for repairs.

Before the new Building Ordinance came into operation, Hongkong seemed to be one of the most overcrowded cities under the sun—at least under British administration. One of the main objects of the new Ordinance, was to diminish the evils of overcrowding, and it would be interesting to have now some authoritative information as to the density of the population in the Colony this year and, say, two years ago. Has there been any improvement, I wonder in this direction? I believe so, but the large number of vacant Chinese houses in Hongkong and Kowloon seem to constitute evidence ainst that belief. The Praya East Reclamation has been indefinitely postponed because there are so many vacant houses in the locality, which is taken as evidence that a reclamation is unnecessary at present. Yet the Chinese population of the Colony is steadily increasing, and while so many Chinese houses are vacant it is not very obvious that much is being done to prevent overcrowding. I am told that the Chinese regard the rents of the new property remaining vacant as prohibitive, and overcrowding they regard as unavoidable in Hongkong owing to the comparatively high cost of living. Having regard to the fact that the Government has aimed at a mitigation of the acknowledged evils of overcrowding in Hongkong, and that its efforts in that direction have apparently failed while there are large numbers of Chinese houses vacant in the Colony, the subject is one which seems to call for a Commission of Inquiry.

BANYAN.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 25th inst., the members present being:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NA HAN, K.C.M.G.

HON. MAJOR-GENERAL VILLIERS HATTON C.B. (Commanding the Troops).

HON. MR. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

HON. SIR H. S. BARKLEY Kt., (Attorney-General).

HON. MR. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).

HON. MR. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

HON. CAPTAIN L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (Harbour Master).

HON. MR. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

HON. SIR C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

HON. DR. HO KAI, C.M.G.

HON. MR. W. I. A. YUK.

HON. MR. R. SHEWAN.

HON. MR. GERSHOM STEWART.

HON. MR. C. W. DICKSON.

MR. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

HIS EXCELLENCY said:—Gentlemen. It has become necessary to open a short session of the Council to deal with certain financial business and to add to the Statute Book four Ordinances.

The most important financial matter is a vote for the equivalent in dollars of £18,933, due to the Imperial Post Office as arrears of mail subsidy to the P. and O. S. N. Co. for the seven years ending the 31st January, 1905.

These arrears have been the subject of correspondence, that has gone on for the last 8½ years. Of this correspondence all the important documents are printed as Appendices to Financial Minute No. 13, which I have drawn up to summarise it. You will see that this Government consented to the questions in dispute being put before an independent arbitrator and that its case, together with the cases of the other Eastern Colonies, were carefully presented to him by the Colonial Office after consultation with the Colonies. In these circumstances the Colony should accept the award, which results, when certain accounts are brought up to the 31st of January last, in an additional payment at the rate of £2,240 per annum for the last seven years.

The subsidy to the P. and O. S. N. Co. has been raised by £10,000 for the 3 years of the extended contract which terminates on the 31st, January, 1908. The Contribution of Hongkong to the subsidy thus raised will be £12,529 per annum against £12,170, the amount that will have been paid after the settlement and against £6,500 paid pending the settlement for the preceding seven years. I would point out to you that from the apparent additions of £5,670 for the last seven years and £6,029 for the next three years have to be deducted amounts of between £3,000 and £4,000 that have hitherto been paid for sea postage, in addition to the provisional subsidy. Financial Minute No. 5 provides for the increase for 1st February to the end of the year.

You will observe from Financial Minute No. 11 that provision is made for lighting the Peak as promised to the Council at their last meeting. It is proposed to meet the expenditure incurred in maintaining the lights by an addition to the rates.

The necessity for the expenditure represented in the remaining finance minutes will be explained to you in Finance Committee.

Of the four bills which appear in the Order of the Day for first reading, the first is the most important. It has been drafted with a view to enabling land owners in the New Territories to be registered and lands to be conveyed, mortgaged and released from mortgage by simpler processes than are possible under the existing law of the Colony. It also enables the Land Officer to decide questions relating to land in a summary way. The necessity for these provisions will be realised when it is remembered that, in the small cultivated area in the New Territories, hardly more than 40,000 acres in extent, there are over 350,000 separate lots held under the *Qing* Lease which I have recently issued to confer appropriate titles on

individual owners and managers of clans, families or tongs. I am satisfied that the small peasant proprietors will appreciate machinery which will enable disputes about their fields to be promptly settled on the spot. At the same time it is possible that lands may pass into the hands of persons who would prefer that they should be dealt with under the ordinary law of the Colony, and provision is made in the Bill for their being so dealt with.

The Bill to amend the Sugar Convention Ordinance 1904 has been drafted mainly to meet a suggestion which was brought forward but not pressed when the principle Ordinance was before the Council to allow the importation of bounty fed sugar in transit.

You are aware, gentlemen, that the question of destitute Europeans has of late been the subject of considerable discussion in this Colony. The nuisance of vagrants is one that we can hardly hope to do away with altogether, but the Government believe that certain improvements in the methods of dealing with them can be effected: first by making other arrangements than sending those to the House of Detention for Destitute Seamen who are believed to be thus destitute through no fault of their own; secondly, by making more rigorous the treatment of vagrants in the House of Detention; thirdly, by discouraging the landing of men in the Colony likely to become destitute within a very short time of their arrival there. Arrangements have been made with a Benevolent Society in the Colony and with the authorities of the Sailors' Home with regard to the first of these matters. The second and third are dealt with in the Bill before you.

I do not propose to proceed to-day with the fourth Bill that appears on the Order: the Day

Gentlemen, since we last met, negotiations have been opened at Peking with the Chinese Government for an Agreement for the joint working of a Railway Line of 4ft. 8½in. gauge from Canton with one from Kowloon to the frontier of the New Territories. It is proposed that this agreement should be on the lines of one concluded by the Colonial Office on behalf of this Government with the British and China Corporation. Before any agreement with the Chinese Government is made binding on that of Hongkong it will be submitted to you. You will doubtless be glad to learn in the meantime that a party of surveyors engaged to locate the line within British territory left England on the 12th of May. (Applause).

Among other matters that are of necessity occupying the attention of the Government at the present time are questions of neutrality arising from the state of war which unfortunately still exists between their Majesties the Emperors of Russia and Japan. This Government adheres and will continue to adhere rigidly to the proclamation of neutrality issued by Mr. May on the 12th February, 1904.

In conclusion it is with some satisfaction that I call your attention to the fact that, so far, the visitation of plague this year has been a mild one. I am not prepared to say that this comparative immunity, which we pray God may continue, is entirely or even mainly due to the sanitary measures taken by the Government and by the Chinese community in concert with the Government. But it is noteworthy that there has been during the last six years a diminution year by year in the general death rate of the Colony which in 1904 was the lowest recorded (Applause).

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the following papers:—Report of the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Surveyor and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon for the year 1904, report of the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, report of the Captain Superintendent of Police, report of the superintendent of Victoria gaol, report of the Registrar General, New Territories Land Court report on work from 1900 to 1903, report of the Botanical and Afforestation Department and financial return for the same year, Financial minute No. 13, report of the Director of Public Works, report of the principal Civil Medical Officer, report of the Tung Wa Hospital, report of the Po Leung Kuk, report of the Registrar of the Supreme Court, report of the Post Office, and Financial Minutes Nos. 4 to 14, which he moved be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded the motion, which was carried.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, I beg to bring up the report of the finance committee No. 1, and move its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—I beg to second.

The motion was carried.

ADDITION TO OPIUM BYE-LAWS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the addition to bye-law I. of the bye-laws governing opium divans contained in schedule "B" of Ordinance No. I. of 1903, made by the Sanitary Board under section 16 of the said Ordinance, be approved by this council. The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded the motion, which was carried.

COOLIE SHELTERS.

The Hon. Mr. GERSHOM STEWART put the following question:—

As the public continually find great difficulty in getting chairs whenever it comes on to rain, will the Government provide shelter for the coolies at various important points and pass some regulations to prevent them from deserting their chairs with impunity and leaving them lying in the public road without bearers?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied—The answer to the first part is—Yes. The answer to the second part is that the Police can and will deal with such cases for causing obstruction.

FIRST READINGS.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the following bills were read a first time:—A Bill, entitled, An Ordinance to facilitate the transfer of land in the New Territories and for settling disputes in respect thereof and for other purposes; a Bill, entitled An Ordinance to amend the Sugar Convention Ordinance, 1904; a Bill, entitled, An Ordinance to amend the Vagrancy Ordinance, 1897.

With reference to the first Bill the Hon. Mr. SHEWAN said—I do not wish to raise any discussion now, but Sub-section 4, Clause I. vitiates the whole of this Bill.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—Questions can be asked at the second reading.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—Council stands adjourned until Thursday, 1st instant.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held after the council—the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., presiding.

The following votes were passed:—

STAMPS AND STATIONERY CHARGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$890 in aid of the vote, Stamp Office, other charges, cost of adhesive Stamps, &c., for the year 1904.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This is a small item remaining over from last year.

EASTERN MAIL SERVICE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of £5,526 11s. 8d. being the difference between the Contribution of Hongkong towards the Eastern Mail Service for 11 months from 1st February, 1905, at the rate of £12,529 per annum in accordance with the award of Lord Balfour of Burleigh and a Contribution for the same period at the rate of £6,500 per annum as voted in the Estimates for the current year.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This item you will find fully explained in a memorandum on financial minute No. 13.

The Hon. Mr. SHEWAN—Did we agree to submit it to arbitration?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Yes. That includes our share of the additional £10,000, which is the addition made to the contract now running.

SHIPPING VOTE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Two thousand Dollars (\$2,000) in aid of the vote, Harbour Master's Department—Lighthouse, Gap Rock and Wagland Island, Other Charges—for Gunpowder Charges and Tubes for Fog Signalling Guns.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The excess is due to the extremely foggy weather we had during the first three months of this year.

RIFLE RANGES.

The Government recommended a vote of \$3,600 at 1/8=£300 in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, for improving New Rifle Ranges at Kowloon City.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This is in order to enable new ranges to be put in use, so that the old ranges in the King's Park may be finally dispensed with.

BANKRUPTCY INCREASE.

The Governor recommended a vote of \$900 in aid of the vote, Judicial and Legal Departments, Land Registry Office, Other Charges, for the following items:—Furnitures and Fittings for Official Receiver's Office, \$300; Rent of Official Receiver's Office for eight months from 1st May, 1905, at \$75 per month, \$600; Total \$900.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The items are principally due to the heavy work in Bankruptcy at the present time necessitating extra accommodation at the Land Office.

POST OFFICE PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Three thousand nine hundred and thirty-one Dollars (\$3,931.00) in aid of the vote, Post Office, Personal Emoluments, for the following items:—

HONGKONG.—From 1st May to 31st December, 1905.

5 Clerks at \$480 each per annum,=	\$1,600
Do. Allowance for Extra work at \$65 each per annum,=	217
1 Shroff at \$480 per annum,=	320
2 Postmen at \$120 each per annum,=	160
Do. Allowance for Extra work at \$16.50 each per annum,=	22
Do. Lodging allowance at \$24 each per annum,=	32
	2,351

SHANGHAI.—From 1st January to 31st December, 1905.

2 Clerks at \$660 each,=	\$1,320
Do. Allowance for Extra work at \$130 each,=	260
	1,580

Total \$3,931

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This is due to an increased staff both in Hongkong and Shanghai.

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT AND EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Six thousand five hundred and fifty Dollars (\$6,550.00) in aid of the vote Public Works Recurrent and Extraordinary:—

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT.

Maintenance of Gas lamps for 3 months, \$1,050
PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.
Lighting of the Peak Roads, 5,500

Total, \$6,550

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Forty-four thousand seven hundred and ninety-three Dollars (\$44,793) in aid of the votes Public Works Annually Recurrent Expenditure and Public Works Extraordinary, for the following items:—

PUBLIC WORKS ANNUALLY RECURRENT EXPENDITURE.

Maintenance of Telegraphs, \$7,600
PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.
Disinfecting Station, Kowloon, 2,800
Gunpowder Depot, Green Island, 34,393

Total, \$44,793

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The first item is principally due to putting in metallic circuiting on lines which have been affected by the Hongkong Lower Level Tramway. The amounts for the Disinfecting Station, Kowloon are for the erection of machinery; and for the Gunpowder Depot at Green Island are re-votes of money not spent during last year.

The Hon. Mr. STEWART—Are these Government telegraphs?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Yes. They are really telephones in the New Territory, but owing to the induction from electric trams they have had to be put in new circuit.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM—They are Government appliances.

ARREARS OF P. AND O. SUBSIDY.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This is the Vote referred to in His Excellency's remarks regarding the arrears due to the Imperial Post Office on the contract with the P. and O. Co. which has now expired, I trust that the very full minute prepared by His Excellency himself will explain matters to members.

The Hon. Mr. DICKSON—As the Government has now committed itself to this expenditure, it is hardly worth while referring to it, but I would point out that according to the figures Hongkong pays 30/6 for the oversea mail against the Straits 21/8 and Ceylon 21/2; that is, Hongkong pays 40 per cent more than the Straits Settlements for the sea carriage of its mails.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—As the arbitrator has pointed out this is a matter it is impossible to come to any thoroughly logical conclusion on. Of course, being at the farthest end of the line I am afraid we will have to pay more. It is one of the disadvantages of being in our somewhat isolated position.

The Hon. Mr. STEWART—Do Shanghai and Yokohama come in this list.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The cost of the section between here and Shanghai is entirely debited to the Imperial Government. Notice, for instance, page 22 where the amount is divided among the different sections of the line. After Singapore and Hongkong the next item we come to is Hongkong and Shanghai £15,000 which is entirely debited to the United Kingdom. I thoroughly agree that Shanghai ought to pay something, but it is rather a difficult matter to arrange. We thought at one time—we had not then the figures before us—that we were to be debited with some portion of this section between Hongkong and Shanghai, but we have not been charged with any portion of it.

HARBOUR MASTER'S ADDITIONAL CLERK.

The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Eight hundred and ten Dollars (\$810) in aid of the vote Harbour Master's Department, Personal Emoluments, for Salary of an additional Clerk, and increased Salaries of Clerks from 10th May to 31st December, 1905.

This was all the business.

"EMPIRE DAY" AT HONGKONG.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mr. R. A. B. Ponsonby, his private Secretary, attended at the Kowloon school on the 24th May to distribute the prizes won by pupils during the year. The prize distribution was followed by the children singing "The Flag of Britain," at the conclusion of which

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Children, I shall not keep you long because to-day is a holiday, and it is right you should get away from school in order to enjoy it. The reason of its being a holiday is that it is the anniversary of the birthday of Queen Victoria who for over sixty years governed the British Empire, and who showed an example to all her subjects how to serve the Empire. She lived for it in the best sense, and devoted herself to its highest interests. In private and public life she always did what was right. Very few people are born to great positions in the world, and very few of us have the power of doing great things; but it is within all of us to strive to do our duty, to fight down inclinations to be lazy, rebellious or selfish, and to try to be energetic, disciplined and self-sacrificing citizens. It is these qualities that make and maintain an empire great. It has been said that the child is the father of the man, and that means that the qualities that a child acquires at school are those that carry the man and the woman through life. If you do not get good qualities as children, you will not be able to acquire them when you are grown up. If, therefore, you want to serve the Empire—if you want to make it a fact of the future as well as a recollection of the past—you will now, in your school days, learn your lessons, will be obedient to your teachers and parents, and will never do anything that your conscience tells you is not right. Each time that you avoid doing something that you know is wrong, and that you do something which you do not like because you think it is right, you make your character stronger, and you add to the greatness of the British Empire, because the greatness of a nation does not depend on its being very big, or its having many people, or its being wealthy. It depends on the physical and the mental, and most of all, on the moral strength of its people.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

Saturday, 20th May.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE).

IP TOK v. CHUN HEE SHAN.

This was a claim for \$200 damages on account of the defendant giving the plaintiff into the custody of a policeman upon a false charge, then made by the defendant, of stealing a box, the property of the defendant, containing clothing and other articles, and causing the plaintiff to be imprisoned until the 2nd May; \$2.75, for money lent to the defendant on or about the 20th April; and \$16.20 costs of these proceedings.

Mr. R. Harding (of Messrs. Ewens and Harston) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. C. E. H. Beavis (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) represented the defendant.

Ip Tok, declared—I am a "boy," at present unemployed. On the 9th ultimo I slept at a Chinese Club at 29, Cochrane Street. On the afternoon of the following day I met the defendant, and went to drink tea with him. There were four others present. Later, I went on board the *Tak on* and arrived back at the Club during the afternoon. I asked the defendant for the loan of ten cents to pay my sampan here, but he said he had lost his trunk and could not comply with my wish. After a far and wide search to borrow ten cents, I returned to the Club, and the defendant seeing me, called a *lukong* to arrest me. The *lukong* asked me where I took the things I stole, and I informed him that I did not steal anything. He asked permission to search me and I granted it, but he did not find anything. I was then taken to the Central Police Station, and detained there from Saturday until the following Tuesday, when I was discharged.

In cross-examination—I looked for the sampan man after my discharge to pay him, but was unable to find him. When I have money I smoke opium; when I have not, I don't.

Inspector Gourlay stated that when complainant was taken to the Central Station, defendant said he only suspected him. The box could not be found in his possession, neither could any of the pawnbrokers who were called identify him as the man who sold them the stolen property.

After the evidence for the defence was heard, His Honour, in delivering judgment, said—In this action the plaintiff seeks to recover from the defendant the sum of \$202.75, made up of \$200 damages for false imprisonment and \$2.75 money lent. With regard to the second cause of action, the plaintiff has not substantiated his case, but with regard to the first cause the law is that the defendant must show reasonable and proper cause for giving a man into custody on account of a felony. The grounds which the defendant puts forward as justifying his suspicions with regard to the plaintiff are chiefly that he relied on a story told him by another member of the club, and this story the other member of the club denies having told him. That is certainly not an adequate ground for suspecting the plaintiff of stealing the trunk. With regard to the damages, the incidents of arrest were not accompanied by any ignominy, barring being seen by persons in the Club, and I think the sum of \$25 will satisfy his claim for damages, and give judgment accordingly with costs.

Mr. Harding asked leave to issue immediate execution, but this His Honour would not grant.

Monday, 22nd May.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE).

HING CHEONG FAT FIRM v. THE LUEN KING FIRM.

The plaintiff firm, carrying on business at 44, Bonham Strand East as cotton and yarn exporters, claimed from the defendants, the Luen King firm of 115, Bonham Strand East, the sum of \$561.9 being for damages sustained by the plaintiffs by reason of the defendants

breach of their agreement with the plaintiffs to purchase and take delivery of 112 bales of yarn, and as to \$113.34 balance for difference in prices of 86 bales of yarn purchased by the defendants from the plaintiffs and agreed to be set off by the defendants by a like number of bales purchased by the plaintiffs for the defendants.

Mr. Holborow (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon), represented the plaintiffs, and Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring) appeared for the defendants.

His Honour, after hearing the evidence, gave judgment for the amount claimed with costs.

IN THE MATTER OF WONG KA CHEONG.

This was an application by Mr. H. N. Ferrers (instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sing), for a writ of *habeas corpus* in connection with Wong Ka Cheong, who was committed to Victoria gaol by Mr. F. A. Hazeland some days ago pending the order of the Governor for his extradition to China to answer a charge of armed robbery.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding) representing the Chinese Government, and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, were in attendance.

Mr. Kong Sing, in his affidavit filed in support of the application, stated that the evidence taken before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate, would not justify the committal of the prisoner for trial at the Supreme Court if the crime of which the prisoner is accused had been committed in the Colony, nor did it amount to proof of the fugitive criminal's guilt in accordance with the provisions of article 21 of the Treaty of Tientsin. The evidence taken before the Police Magistrate shows that no such offence was committed as alleged, and that the object of the prosecution was to obtain the extradition of the prisoner with a view to his punishment in China upon other grounds, and for other offences, than that mentioned in the requisition for surrender, such offences not being extradition crimes as defined by the Chinese Extradition Ordinance of 1889. The evidence also proves the existence of circumstances throwing suspicion on the origin and nature of the charge made, of which the Police Magistrate did not take such notice as is required by law.

Mr. Ferrers—The prisoner was committed to gaol on the 8th instant.

His Honour—Have you got the committal warrant to show that the man is actually in prison?

Mr. Ferrers—I regret to say we have not.

His Honour—If I grant an adjournment to enable you to obtain same, the question is whether the position will be any better for your client. There is nothing in the statutes to say you must apply within fifteen days, but the trouble is that he may be handed over to the Chinese Government, after which nothing can be done.

Mr. Bowley informed His Honour that the Government would not hand the prisoner over once, at knowing that these proceedings were in hand.

His Honour granted an adjournment until to-day.

Tuesday, 23rd May.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE).

IN THE MATTER OF WONG KA CHEONG.

The hearing of this application for a writ of *habeas corpus* was continued.

Mr. H. N. Ferrers (instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sing) made the application, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding) representing the Chinese Government, and Mr. G. E. Morrell, of the Crown Solicitor's office, being in attendance.

Mr. Ferrers—Since this matter was last before Your Honour another affidavit made by the prisoner's solicitor, identifying the warrant of committal, has been filed; also a declaration made by the prisoner himself, which completes the necessary preliminaries. The intention of the Chinese authorities, in the event of his being surrendered, is to punish him in accordance with a proclamation for the extermination of certain vagabonds, which is other than the extradition crime. The proclamation,

published by the Chinese authorities at the beginning of the year, accuses the prisoner of being a sturdy rogue and vagabond, while the evidence of the prosecution shows that he is accused of murder.

His Honour—You say he is wanted for murder!

Mr. Ferrers—No. I say he runs the risk of being punished for murder, but the real grounds are that the joint charge against him and some 60 others of being vagabonds is the crime for which the extradition is sought.

His Honour—You charge the Chinese Government of bad faith?

Mr. Ferrers—No, your Honour. For all I know the provisions have not been brought to their notice. If the prisoner goes back he will be punished for an offence which is not an extraditable crime.

His Honour—The offence for which the surrender has been demanded is clearly an extradition crime.

Mr. Ferrers—Clearly, Your Honour, but then we produce a Chinese document threatening him with punishment for something else, and say that that something else is not an extradition crime. This proclamation says nothing about giving him a trial, but threatens to exterminate him.

His Honour—You have to satisfy the Court that the requisition for surrender has in fact been made with a view to punishing him for an offence that is not an extradition crime.

Mr. Ferrers—All through the trial at the Police Court the Magistrate said he required proof of guilt, and he never got it.

His Honour—The prosecution must have succeeded in proving prisoner's guilt to the satisfaction of the Magistrate, as he committed the prisoner.

Mr. Ferrers—The prisoner failed to prove his case at the Magistracy, but he is given by law another chance to prove same before a judge of the Supreme Court.

His Honour—The Magistrate would not have committed him if he had not had proof to his satisfaction.

Mr. Ferrers—The Section says that the prisoner has not to prove until brought before the Court on a writ of *habeas corpus*. Before anyone can be extradited to China there must be proof that he is a subject of the Emperor of China, and it is for the Chinese authorities to prove that he is a Chinese subject.

His Honour, in giving his decision, said:—

This is an application made yesterday, and renewed this afternoon, by and on behalf of one, Wong Ka Cheong, that a writ of *habeas corpus* issue to the superintendent of Victoria gaol to bring up the body of the said Wong Ka Cheong before the Supreme Court. It appears that the extradition of the applicant has been applied for by the Government of China. He was arrested on the 3rd March last upon a warrant issued by the Magistrate on the 22nd February, and was formerly remanded from time to time until 12th April, when evidence on that and other occasions was taken. He was committed to Victoria gaol to await the further order of H.E. the Governor on a charge of armed robbery within the jurisdiction of China. There were three charges formulated against him, namely, robbery with violence, robbery in conjunction with two or more persons and robbery under arms. The writ applied for is not a writ as of course, but a writ as of right, by which I understand that a person in custody, who applies for a writ of *habeas corpus* would not get it as of course, but that it would be granted to him as of right if he satisfied the Court that there were reasonable grounds for the issue of the writ. The material grounds of the present application are three. The first ground of application is based on section 4 (1) of the Chinese Extradition Ordinance No. 7 of 1889, and it was stated to be that the applicant should have a chance of proving to the satisfaction of a judge of the Supreme Court that the requisition for his surrender had, in fact, been made with a view to try to punish him for an offence which was not an extradition crime, and that unless the writ issues he cannot be brought before the Court and, therefore, cannot try to satisfy the Court that he is in fact wanted for a non-extraditable offence. In support of his argument,

the learned counsel referred me to a proclamation issued by the Chinese Government calling for the extermination of certain bandits, amongst whom is included the prisoner, Wong Ka Cheong, and urged that the offence of being a bandit was not an extraditable offence. The next ground on which the application was based, was that this Court must have regard to the Treaty of Tientsin in support of Article 21 of which the Chinese Extradition Ordinance No. 7 of 1889 was specially passed. He called attention to the terms of Section 21 of the Treaty of Tientsin, by which the fugitive criminal has to be surrendered only on proof of his guilt. It was argued that the proof required by the Treaty of Tientsin was something more than mere *prima facie* evidence, sufficient to justify a magistrate in committing on an ordinary case of offence against the laws of the Colony. In this connection Wilson's case, 3 Q.B.D., page 42, was referred to. The third ground of the application was that clause 21 of the Treaty of Tientsin speaks of the rendition of criminals subjects of China, and that there was no evidence before the Court that the prisoner was a subject of China. The onus of proving every matter constituting the offence charged, and fulfilling the conditions of surrender, lay upon the Chinese Government, which, it was argued, had failed to sustain the onus. On these three grounds therefore, I think that sufficient has been advanced by the learned counsel to justify me in directing the issue of a writ. A writ of *habeas corpus* will accordingly issue to the superintendent of Victoria gaol, and will be returnable on Saturday morning, the 27th instant, at 11 a.m.

So far as it may have been contended that there was no sufficient *prima facie* evidence of the offence charged before the Magistrate to justify him in committing the prisoner for trial at the Supreme Court if the offences had been committed within the jurisdiction of this Court, and that, therefore, there was no sufficient *prima facie* evidence to justify the Magistrate in committing the prisoner to await extradition, I am of opinion that there was sufficient *prima facie* evidence. My order directing the issue of a writ of *habeas corpus* is, therefore, not based on the ground that there was no *prima facie* evidence.

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AT KOWLOON.

THE OPENING CEREMONY—DR. A. S. GOMES
DECORATED.

The new Roman Catholic Church at Kowloon, the gift of Dr. A. S. Gomes, was crowded on 28 May at the inaugural services. Launches left Blake Pier for the church at 7.30 a.m., conveying those who desired to attend at the ceremony. The altar, decorated with palms, had a very cheerful appearance. The choir boys from St. Joseph's sang during the service.

First of all the Rev. Fr. de Maria, assisted by Rev. Fathers from the Italian Mission, French Procure and Spanish Procure, blessed the church, after which the Rev. Fr. de Maria read the Papal commission conferring the knighthood of the illustrious and most distinguished order of St. Gregory the Great on Dr. A. S. Gomes, donor of the church. Fr. de Maria made a short address, finishing by saying the intended jubileations had been abandoned owing to the Church at Hongkong being in mourning, and to Dr. Gomes being in mourning.

Dr. A. S. GOMES appreciated very much the high honour the Pope had deigned to confer on him. His building the church, however, was prompted only by the special need of the Catholic Community at Kowloon, and the honour he owed the memory of his late parents and sister. He wished to convey his humble and heartfelt thanks to the Pope.

The Shanghai Times prints the following telegram:—Peking, 12th May.—The French Minister is endeavouring to obtain a railway concession between Liuchau and Kweilin from the Chinese Government. If the concession is granted, the French Government proposes to lend to the Chinese Court some 10,000,000 taels, through the medium of H. H. Chau Hangchi, Minister of the Wai-wu-pu.

COMPANIES.

THE "STAR" FERRY COMPANY,
LIMITED.

The annual meeting of this Company was held at the City Hall on May 27th when there were present: Sir C. P. Chater (Chairman) and A. J. Raymond (Directors) E. O. Osborne (Secretary), and Messrs. G. H. Potts, P. C. Potts, A. Apcar, C. F. Xavier, C. A. Roza and Wong Kam Fuk.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

These have already been published. In moving their adoption the CHAIRMAN said—GENTLEMEN.—With your permission we will accept the report and accounts as read. There is nothing in them that needs comment, for in a business of this nature, when everything works smoothly, there is little of interest for the Chairman to say either to shareholders or the general public. We propose the same dividend as last year, and trust that you endorse our policy of building up the reserve fund whilst writing down assets. During the past year we have been able to improve the service by running the boats more frequently at night, and by increasing their speed, both of which changes have, however, augmented the coal bill, which I fear will be still heavier after existing cheap contracts have expired. A new pier is being built at Kowloon and is expected to be opened for traffic next December, and we shall then see if it be practicable to run a five minutes service during the business hours of the day; but the stumbling block will be the pier on the Hongkong side, which is already cramped for present traffic, and if a five minutes service be inaugurated, the provision of an enlarged one will become a necessity. The Kowloon pier is designed for a five minutes service, though a portion only is under construction, but if, as now appears hopeful, the railway to Canton becomes an accomplished fact, within a measurable distance of time, we shall have to contemplate not only a more frequent service, but a service that will appropriately suffice for the far reaching changes which must inevitably follow this great local event, and embodying probably the conveyance of chairs, horses, vehicles, and a largely increased passenger traffic. This, however, is at present mere subject matter for contemplation, meanwhile we are considering the more practical suggestion of extending to Yaumati or Hunghom, or both, as these districts are rapidly opening up, and should soon be able to support a regular and comfortable service such as the Star Ferry Co. makes it its business to provide. If any Shareholder has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them.

There were no questions. Mr. G. H. POTTS seconded the motion, which was carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. APCAR moved, and Mr. G. H. POTTS seconded, the re-election of Mr. A. J. Raymond as a director. Carried.

Mr. G. H. Potts was re-elected auditor on the motion of Mr. APCAR, seconded by Mr. WONG KAM FUK.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants can be had on application. Thanks for your attendance, gentlemen.

The report read:—The directors have the pleasure to submit to shareholders their report, with a statement of accounts for the year ending 30th April, 1905.

ACCOUNTS.

The nett earnings of the boats, after paying all working expenses, were \$56,692.45 as against \$55,684.42 last year, being an increase of \$1,008.03.

The amount at credit of profit and loss account after paying for repairs and placing \$9,164.15 to credit of insurance fund, is \$43,312.79 which, with the approval of shareholders, it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

Directors' and auditor's fees	\$ 1,100.00
Dividend of 18 per cent.	27,000.00
Write off boats	9,283.00
Transfer to reserve fund	5,000.00
Carry forward to new account	929.79

\$43,312.79

BOATS.

The *Morning Star* and *Evening Star* have been added to the fleet.

DIRECTORS.

In accordance with the articles of association, Mr. A. J. Raymond retires but offers himself for re-election.

Mr. N. A. Siebs having resigned, his place was taken by Hon. W. J. Gresson.

AUDITOR.

Mr. W. H. Potts has audited the accounts now presented and offers himself for re-election.

C. P. CHATER,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 20th May, 1905.

Accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE SHEET.

30th April, 1905.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
To capital—			
10,000 shares at \$10 each fully paid up	100,000.00		
10,000 shares at \$10 each \$5 paid up	50,000.00		
		150,000.00	
To reserve fund	65,000.00		
To insurance fund	24,257.90		
To unclaimed dividends	344.80		
To accounts payable	9,700.72		
To directors' and auditor's fees	1,100.00		
To dividend	27,000.00		
To balance of profit and loss account	929.79		
		\$278,335.21	

ASSETS.		\$	c.
By value of boats as per last account	136,000.00		
Since expended on 2 new boats	47,283.00		
	183,283.00		
Less written off	9,283.00		
		174,000.00	
By accounts receivable	1,584.19		
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	32,304.22		
By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank No. 2 account	344.80		
By Hongkong Hotel debentures	30,000.00		
By Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, loan	40,000.00		
By cash in hand	100.00		
		\$278,335.21	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	\$	c.
To repairs and alterations to boats	10,829.23	
To insurance fund	9,164.15	
To balance appropriated as follows:—		
Directors' and auditor's fees, \$ 1,100.00		
Dividend of 18 per cent.	27,000.00	
Written off boats	9,283.00	
Transferred to reserve fund	5,000.00	
Carried to new account	929.79	
	43,312.79	
	\$63,306.17	
By balance from last account	1,287.06	
By nett earnings of boats	56,692.45	
By interest	5,046.56	
By scrip fees	69.00	
By unclaimed dividends forfeited	191.10	
	\$63,306.17	

RESERVE FUND.

	\$	c.
To balance	65,000.00	
By balance from last account	60,000.00	
By transfer from profit and loss account	5,000.00	
	\$65,000.00	

INSURANCE FUND.

	\$	c.
To balance	24,257.90	
By balance from last account	15,093.75	
By profit and loss account	9,164.15	
	\$24,257.90	

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Messrs A. S. Watson & Company, Limited, held their twentieth annual general meeting at 11.30 a.m. on May 27th. Mr. H. Humphreys (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C. M. G., Messrs. C. Ewins, E. Osborne and H. P. White (Consulting Committee), Mr. J. A. Tarrant (Secretary), Messrs. J. A. Jupp, E. J. Moses, T. Arnold, E. Millar, P. Smith and Captain Clark.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for the past week I will, with your consent, take them as read. The year's working has

been on the whole satisfactory, most department of the business showing an improvement. We have no doubt derived some benefit from the comparatively high rates of exchange which prevailed throughout the year. The profits from the business were augmented by an amount of \$578.97 received from the North China Insurance Co., Ltd., being a return of capital of £10 per share on 5 original shares held by this company which appear in the accounts under the heading of "investments in public companies." The amounts at which these investments stands in the books, after transferring the amount above mentioned to profit and loss account being still well below their market value, it has not been considered necessary to make any change in their valuation. You will have noticed on looking at the accounts that they have been rendered somewhat differently to those you have been accustomed to in years past. Hitherto it has been usual to include under the heading of "Total Stocks in Trade," such items as machinery and plant, furniture, fittings and launches; but we have deemed it advisable in the balance sheet before you to separate live from dead stocks, so that in future the item "Total Stocks in Trade," will represent as it should do, live stock only, that is to say, stock that is being constantly turned over. You will observe on comparing the accounts now before you with those of last year, that local and general liabilities are less by \$99,168.21, amounts borrowed on mortgage by \$27,005.02 and bills payable by \$82,625.17, or a total decrease in the liabilities of \$208,798.40; whilst our assets in the form of stocks have increased in the same period by \$103,872.85, an increase brought about by the establishment of a new aerated water factory in Canton and the acquisition of the Shanghai business of Messrs. Mactavish and Lehmann. The purchase of the latter was successfully carried through in April last year, and so far we have every reason to congratulate ourselves. We are of opinion that these new branches will prove a source of strength to the company in the future. As you are aware, during the period under review, the capital of the company was increased from \$600,000 to \$900,000 by the issue of 30,000 new shares of \$10 each, such shares being issued at 10 per cent premium. The amount derived by way of premium was carried to permanent reserve fund, increasing the amount of this fund from \$250,000 to \$280,000. We have thought it advisable to place a further sum of \$20,000 from the profits of the year to this account, bringing it up to \$300,000, which we trust meets with your approval. If any shareholder has any questions to ask, I should be pleased to answer them to the best of my ability.

There were no questions. The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as presented. Mr. T. ARNOLD seconded and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the re-election of the existing members of the Consulting Committee. Captain CLARK seconded and it was carried.

Messrs F. Maitland and W. H. Potts were re-elected auditors on the motion of Mr. J. A. JUPP, seconded by Mr. E. J. Moses.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen; dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. Thank you for your attendance.

NEW CHIEF JUSTICE ARRIVES.

Mr. Francis Taylor Piggott, Hongkong's newly appointed Chief Justice, arrived here by the C.P.R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of China* on the 23rd May accompanied by Mrs. Piggott. Sir H. S. Berkeley, the acting Chief Justice, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, the Puisne Judge, the Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., Attorney General, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Mr. A. Seth, Registrar, cast off from shore in a launch as soon as the *Empress of China* entered the harbour, to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Piggott to Hongkong. Mrs. Piggott was escorted to Sir Henry Berkeley's residence at the Peak, where she and her husband are to remain as guests for the present, while Mr. Piggott was introduced at the Hongkong Club. Later in the day Sir Henry Berkeley introduced Mr. Piggott to H.E. the Governor at the Council Chambers, where the office of office were administered.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE COMMISSIONED.

At the Supreme Court on the 25th May the commission appointing Francis Taylor Piggott, M.A., Chief Justice of the Colony of Hongkong, was read by Mr. A. Seth, Registrar of the Court, in the presence of local barristers and solicitors, and a number of ladies. The members sitting at the bar were Sir H. S. Berkeley, Dr. Ho Kai, and Messrs E. H. Sharp, K.C., H. E. Pollock, K.C., H. G. Calthrop, H. N. Ferrers, F. A. Hazeland, C. D. Melbourne and J. W. Jones, Deputy Registrar.

The commission read was as follows:—

'Edward VII.' by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the seas, King Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

"To our trusty and well-beloved Francis Taylor Piggott, Esq., M.A., one of our counsel, learned in the law.

"Now know you that we, taking into consideration all your loyalty, integrity and ability of our special grace, certain knowledge and immediate motion have thought fit to constitute and appoint and do hereby appoint you, the said Francis Taylor Piggott, to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of our Colony of Hongkong and its dependencies from the 27th day of April, 1905, inclusive, to hold, exercise and enjoy the said office and place during our pleasure with all the rights, profits, privileges and advantages thereunto belonging and appertaining, provided always that you, the said Francis Taylor Piggott, do actually reside within our said Colony and do not quit the same without the previous permission of our Governor of our said Colony or of such person as may for the time being be charged with the government thereof.

"And also that you execute the said office in your own person except in case of sickness or other incapacity, and do all other matters and things and perform the duties thereof in a disinterested and ordinary manner.

"In testimony, whereof, we have caused these our letters, to be made patent and to be sealed with the public seal of our Colony aforesaid.

"Witness: Our trusty and well-beloved Matthew Nathan, Knight Commander of the most distinguished order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its dependencies and Vice-Admiral of the same. This 23rd day of May, in the year of our Lord 1905, and in the fifth year of our reign. By Command."

Sir H. S. BERKELEY—I take this opportunity on the occasion of your Lordship's first taking your seat in this Court to offer to your Lordship on behalf of the bar of this Colony—and I feel sure I am also expressing the sentiments of the solicitors of the Supreme Court—our hearty congratulations upon the high appointment which His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer upon you: the office of Chief Justice of so important a Colony as Hongkong, one of the greatest commercial centres of the Empire. My Lord, your name will be added to a lengthy roll of distinguished judges who by their legal learning, and by their pure and independent administration of justice in this Colony in the past, have preserved the great traditions of the English race, and without question the addition of Your Lordship's name will add lustre thereto. My Lord, it is a matter of great satisfaction to me to be able to state without reserve that the relations which exist between the bench and bar in this Colony are of the most happy disposition. I need not say to your Lordship how important that fact is in the administration of Justice in this court. Your Lordship will find that the bar, as it ever should be, is zealous of the privileges and rights entrusted to it. They will at the same time be ever ready to give due obedience and deference to the considered rulings and judgment of this Court, and I can only repeat our welcome to Your Lordship and trust that you may be accorded health and strength long to hold the high office which has been entrusted to you.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, in reply said: Mr. Attorney and Members of the Bar—a few days ago when I landed in this Colony you were pleased to extend to me a cordial welcome, truly eastern in its character. To-day we meet for the first time in Court and you welcome

few arrival in words of like courtesy. I thank you very much for the expression of your good will, and need hardly say I reciprocate it most heartily. You have been pleased to say that, in your opinion, I have succeeded a number of illustrious men who have sat in this Court. I have, it is true, done a certain amount of work, which, if it has any merit at all is that it has materially assisted in bringing me among you. So far as our relations are concerned, I feel sure they will be perfectly cordial, as we come of the common stock. In the colony where I spent a great many very arduous, but not unhappy years, I never failed to endeavour to impress upon those who came in contact with me the absolute necessity of maintaining the traditions of England on which the wellbeing of the community in a large measure depends. In Mauritius I have always met with the loyal co-operation of the bar, and I feel sure it will be the same in Hongkong. So, gentlemen, we begin our joint labours with mutual expression of goodwill. I trust that no act or word of mine will ever mar or in any way militate against these good feelings.

HONGKONG'S POST OFFICE.

The following extracts are taken from the Postmaster General's report on the Post Office for the year 1904, which is published in the *Government Gazette*:—

DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES.

Mr. E. Cornwell Lewis, the Assistant Postmaster General, returned from leave on the 3rd March. Mr. S. B. C. Ross ceased to act as Postmaster General on the 11th May, and I then resumed charge of the office. Mr. T. H. Martin, Supervisor, was appointed Superintendent of the Registration and Parcels Branch, and Mr. R. A. J. Savage, Supervisor, Superintendent of Mails, both taking up their duties on the 1st January, 1904.

MAILS.

Mails were closed during the year for 126 different offices of exchange, and the increase in the number received as against the previous year is 10,213, while the increase in the number despatched, including those sent in transit through Hongkong is 15,339. The increase in the number of steamers carrying mails to and from this port is: arrivals, 2,118, departures, 2,597.

The number of articles posted in the various pillar boxes, was 66,746, as against 48,110 for the previous year.

REGISTRATION BRANCH.

	Bags.	Packets.	Boxes.
Received, 1904	13,576	6,063	4,724
" 1903	11,615	5,455	3,920
Increase	1,961	608	804
Despatched, 1904	13,167	6,368	6,407
" 1903	11,770	4,084	3,972
Increase	1,397	2,284	2,435

The number of registered articles and parcels handled in the General Post Office, Hongkong, shows the very considerable increase of 68,498 over the previous year. The average number handled on each working day is 1,914 or 219 more than last year. A Parcel Post Convention concluded with the United States of America came into force at the beginning of the year, and 1,700 parcels were dealt with under it.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The statement of revenue and expenditure shews a balance in favour of the Post Office of \$91,702.36. The decrease in the revenue from the sale of stamps is due to the fact that stamps for general revenue purposes are now sold exclusively by the Post Office. A sum of \$124,284 has been transferred to other heads of general revenue under which fees and duties are paid in stamps. The decrease in unpaid postage is only apparent: certain official mails previously prepaid in cash, which was brought to credit under this head, are now prepaid in stamps. The principal savings in Expenditure are due to the higher rate of exchange prevailing during the year.

Books containing stamps to the value of \$1 were available from 1st January, 1904, and were purchased to the number of 3,040. Postage envelopes, though very convenient, are not in great demand.

MONEY ORDER BRANCH.

There are increases in orders in sterling, gold yen and silver dollars, and decreases in gold dollars and rupees. Both British and local postal notes show an increase. British postal orders are now cashed in Hongkong and at the British Agencies. The limit for single money order has been raised from £10 or \$100 to £40 or \$400. A direct exchange of Money Orders has been arranged with the Transvaal Post Office.

DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

38,229 articles were dealt with, 24,771 being returned from Hongkong to other administrations and 13,458 being received from other countries. There were found in 63 unregistered letters opened in the Dead Letter Branch and returned to their several senders; silk handkerchiefs, a lady's b.dice, silver curios, Imperial postal orders amounting to £22 14s. 0d. bank drafts, cheques, Bank of England notes and money orders representing in those drawn in sterling a sum of £577 7s. 0d., and those drawn in local currency \$235.45. A large number of letters received in this branch, owing to the absence both of address and name of sender, could not be returned and were therefore destroyed, particularly was this the case with letters written in Chinese. The return of correspondence to senders in the Navy and Army would be much facilitated if the sender's name, rank and ship or regiment appeared thereon.

GENERAL.

Owing to labour difficulties at Marseilles the mails which should have arrived by French steamers were brought on by other lines, on the following occasions:—On the 5th October, 1904, by *Capri*, on the 18th October by the *Marie Valerie* and on the 31st October by the *Gregory Aparcar*. The mails despatched from London by French packet on the 24th April, 13th May and 8th July were, owing to breakdowns, brought to the Colony by the P. & O. s.s. *Ballaarat* and *Nankin*, and s.s. *Catherine Aparcar*. The last mentioned mail had in the first instance been transferred at Colombo to the German Mail *Prinz Heinrich* but that boat not being able through an accident to proceed further than Singapore transferred there both her own Mails and those of the French packet. The mail despatched from London on the 15th March by German packet s.s. *Oldenburg* was transferred at Aden to the P. & O. mail packet and reached Hongkong on 22nd April by P. & O. s.s. *Chusan*. A mail for Manila was placed on board the s.s. *Legaspi* on the 15th December, but the steamer has not since been heard of.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG AND DAPHNE POLLARD.

The *Seattle Times* says:—Little Daphne Pollard, the child soubrette, still heads the Pollard Lilliputian Opera Company, which begins an engagement at the Grand to-morrow night in the famous musical comedy, "The Belle of New York." While performing in the province of Hankow, China, an incident occurred which might have had a very unpleasant termination. Viceroy Chang Chih Tung was so taken with the child that he commanded her presence. When she beheld him Little Daphne laughed and irreverently exclaimed: "What a funny Chinik." The viceroy who understands English, but is slightly deaf, did not catch the purport of the remark and asked one of his suite what she had said. The wily courtier, who was next to his job, replied: "The little one is very much impressed with Your Highness's appearance, and had exclaimed 'What a great and noble-looking man.'" "She is a very wise child," remarked Chang Chih Tung, "and I will buy her to instruct my wives." He then offered to give Mr. Pollard in exchange for Daphne a sum in Chinese ta-lis equal in American money to \$800. When he was informed that white people did not barter their children, but loved and cherished them, he frowned and turned away, thereby intimating that the audience was at an end. Mr. Pollard was greatly perturbed at the occurrence and lost no time in getting out of the province where Chang Chih Tung was omnipotent.

We fear that this story may possibly contain a little of the element of exaggeration!

HISTORY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

The *Yellow Dragon* for May, among other interesting matter, contains an historical sketch from which we take the following interesting extracts:—The changes that have taken place in the city of Victoria, Hongkong, during the last forty years amount to a complete metamorphosis. The clock tower, now nearly a furlong distant from the sea, was then not far from a wharf; in such close proximity, indeed, that in 1874 the celebrated typhoon piled up two ocean-going steamers quite close to the clock-tower; which fact would now appear to a stranger an absolutely incredible fact. But quite apart from the alteration produced by successive reclamations of land from the harbour, it is on the slopes of the hill above Queen's Road, the main course of traffic, that the change is most apparent. Forty years ago, villas and bungalows scattered among gardens, trees, and bamboo groves afforded a pretty country effect close to the centre of mercantile activity, but now these sites are occupied by densely packed streets and lanes. Thus it is that Queen's College (as formerly its predecessor the Government Central School) appears in a city, no longer in the country.

It may be accepted as certain that with the growth of the city there would be a corresponding increase in the number and size of educational establishments, and a development in the system of Education pursued by the Government. In the first five years of the history of the Colony, education was left to individual efforts, chiefly missionary. In 1847, the Governor, Sir John Davis, introduced a Grant-in-Aid System. It was not, however, till 1860 that a Board of Education was formed, and the scheme evolved of a Government Central School directly under the control and management of the Government. Dr. James Legge, Superintendent of the London Mission, the famous Sinologue and subsequently (1874) Professor of Chinese at the University of Oxford, was the life and moving spirit of this new educational departure. He may correctly be termed the father of education in the colony, as by his broad liberal views, the success of the new scheme was secured. The appointment of the two Headmasters was entrusted by the Government to his nomination.

Mr. Frederick Stewart, M.A. (Aberdeen Hon. L.L.D. in 1880) was appointed the first Head Master of the Government Central School and Inspector of Schools in 1861, arriving in the colony March, 1862. At the time of his departure for Hongkong, Dr. Stewart was Assistant Master at Fareham School, Hants, awaiting his call to Presbyterian Orders. Forty years ago, the study of English was viewed by the Chinese as a luxury, a novel curiosity; not as now a necessary, a potent factor in success. There was a mistaken impression (not entirely eradicated even now) that a process of saturation of ideas, without any mental exercise was the natural consequence of securing and retaining a seat in school for five or six years, after which, however low a standard of examination might have been passed, the man or boy (hardly deserving to be termed the student, might feel entitled to lay claim to a knowledge of English. It is not surprising to find that at the opening of the Central School, no fee could be charged. Instead of boys being refused admission, they actually required to be enticed to undertake the study of English, and for many years quite mature boys, in some instances men over 30, were the pupils. The difficulties with which Dr. Stewart had to contend in the early days of the Central School were sufficiently grave, but in addition to these, he had to supervise the education of the whole colony, and pay periodical visits to schools in outlying districts.

The Central School was an unpretentious one-story building in the shape of a capital H, two wings united by a central hall, four classes being also held in the lower floors of the two houses intended to be the respective residences of the Head Master and the Second Master. The course of studies was naturally for many years purely elementary. That Dr. Stewart had an eye to the future is manifest from the valuable collection of electric and physical apparatus he procured thirty years ago, of which, however, little or no use appears ever to have been made. Lectures in Elementary Chemistry were for a

few years given by him and Mr. Falconer, the Second Master.

In 1877, great excitement was caused by the appearance of a pamphlet (popularly believed to have been penned by the late Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C.), entitled 'Does the Central School fulfil its *raison d'être*?' and for five years a brisk and rather bitter warfare ensued in the local press. In his Annual Report about this time, Dr. Stewart begged to be relieved of the responsibility of the Inspectorate of Schools. Dr. Eitel, of the London Mission (formerly of the Basel Hakka Mission), Sinologue and Chinese Lexicographer, was appointed Inspector of Schools, March, 1878, but the Central School remained a separate Department. Dr. Stewart, in 1879, applied for the vacant post of Police Magistrate, to which he was appointed in March, 1881.

During the eighteen years he had held office, Dr. Stewart had done yeoman service in the interests of Education in the colony in general, and in the Central School in particular. It is now 25 years since his transfer to the Magistracy and 16 years since his death, but it is pleasant to find the large number of men, of ages ranging from 45 upwards, by whom his memory is still kept green, and to whom his name still acts as a spell and a watchword.

Sir John Pope Hennessy, then Governor, appointed a Commission the results of whose labours were published in 1882. The Commissioners were invited to consider whether in preference to building one new large college, the interests of education in the Colony would not be better served by the erection of five District schools of 500 each, reserving the Central School for purely Secondary Education. The scheme, which manifestly had much in its favour, appears to have been viewed by the public as an attempt to derogate from the dignity of the popular Central School and was vetoed by the Commission, who approved of a large Central College being erected on a site already bought by the Government higher up the hill, which for this purpose had rather prematurely been denuded of rate paying houses.

In November, 1881, Mr. G. H. Bateson Wright, M.A. (D.D. in 1891) Queen's College, Oxford, where he was then engaged in private coaching, was nominated by Professor Legge and recommended by the Provost of Queen's, Professor Sayce and Dr. Neubaur for the post of Head Master of the Government Central School, Hongkong, to which he was appointed by Earl Kimberley. Immediately on his arrival Mr. Wright held the Annual Examination of the school; and though not in a position to write a report on a year's work with which he had no personal acquaintance, at the public Prize Distribution, in a speech to the Governor, Sir John Pope Hennessy, he stated that he was much struck with the attainments in the English language of the Chinese boys, and that the results of the examination reflected great credit on the management of the school, and the labours of the masters.

1884 was a great year for the Central School. A Public Tiffin was given to the late Head Master on the occasion of the foundation of the Stewart Scholarship. On the 26th April the foundation stone of the present college was laid by Governor Bowen, the Head Master, remarking that though higher up the hill, Queen's College could never look down upon the Central School. Some years previously the site had been cleared, and another tedious wait of five years was to follow before the occupation of the college was an accomplished fact. In December, Walter Bosman, of the Central School, was, after examination by Special Examiners, elected first Government Scholar. He had a brilliant career, coming out first in all the examinations at the Crystal Palace Engineering Institute, and being subsequently employed as Director of Public Works at Eshowe and Durban. He is the proud possessor of letters of thanks from the late Marquis of Salisbury, Mr. Chamberlain and the Minister of Foreign Affairs at Lisbon for his successful delimitation of the frontier between Zululand and Portuguese East Africa. The Government Scholarships of value £20 a year for four years, awarded biennially, were instituted by Sir George Bowen in imitation of those existing at the Royal College, Mauritius. After five or six competitions, these scholarships

fell into abeyance, though they are still in full force at Singapore, which speedily followed Hongkong's lead in the establishment of Government Scholarships.

In July, 1888, the Oxford Local Examinations were held for the first time, Mr. Wright being Honorary Local Secretary, and have since been an annual event. The reasons why they completely superseded the Cambridge Local Examinations, which were held for the last time in December of the same year, were because Oxford Junior and Senior certificates are issued to candidates irrespective of age; distinctions and honours being reserved for those under the ages of 16 and 19 respectively; and because Oxford agreed on account of the immense distance of this centre, to provide advance information of variable subjects, in order that the books might be procurable in time, which favour Cambridge declined to entertain.

1889. The 10th July was a joyful occasion. Early in the morning, the Head Master received private information from the Colonial Secretary that he was authorised to take possession of Queen's College immediately. The transfer was quietly effected in an incredibly short space of time. On 9th July 510 boys were present, on the 15th after the transfer 716, rising to 796 in September.

In October, 1889, Hon. Frederick Stewart, L.L.D., Colonial Secretary, died of pneumonia. At his interment, the whole community turned out as one man, and the 800 boys of Queen's College marched in classes and sections under the charge of their respective masters, at the end of one of the most imposing funeral processions the colony has ever beheld. It was a strange fatality that Dr. Stewart should have barely lived to see the occupation of the college, the erection of which was entirely due to his foresight a dozen years previously, and to his unwearying continued representations.

1894 will ever be memorable as the year of the Great Plague. It is true that the plague has, more or less, occurred every year since; but the panic caused by the first outbreak of the epidemic has never been repeated. In '94 the streets were deserted, very few chairs and rickshas were plying.

THE BOXER INDEMNITY.

The Waiwupu has concluded with foreign ministers the arrangements regarding the Boxer indemnity as follows:—

1.—The payment of the sum of eight million pounds sterling being the difference in exchange up to date shall be made within 15 days from the signing of agreements by telegraphic draft, and interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum shall be paid counting from the 1st January 1905, on the said eight million pounds sterling.

2.—Bonds shall be handed over to the Powers respectively against the sum still unpaid of the indemnity.

3.—Payment of principal and interest will be made by monthly instalments payable at the end of each calendar month (foreign calendar). The annual interest at the rate of 4 per cent. shall be paid semiannually. As to the manner of payment of the indemnity and interests either by the gold cash of respective powers, or by silver at the rate of London market on the day, or a bill of exchange or by telegraphic draft shall be at the discretion of China, and the same the case about the place and at which bank the payment is to be made.

4.—The sum already paid in this year shall be paid back to China at Shanghai and for the sum China will pay interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, and the sum will be paid in accordance with the new arrangement.

The sum of eight million pounds sterling will be loaned from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation by the Board of Revenue.

Russia is the only power which wishes to be paid at the rate of London market on the days of payment while all the other powers preferred telegraphic draft.

Taotai Yuan is now negotiating the matter with the local Russo-Chinese Bank, the managing director of which is waiting for instructions from the Russian minister to Peking as to the arrangement.—*Shenpao*.

ALLEGED BRIBERY.

Before Mr. G. N. Orme at the Police Court on May 23rd, Ap Ching, accountant at the Yee Hop boarding house, 291, Des Voeux Road West, was charged with bribing Wong Ka Lung, a clerk employed in the Registrar-General's department.

Mr. A. G. Wood, assistant Registrar-General prosecuted, and Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for the defendant; Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master), watched the case on behalf of a witness.

Wong Ka Lung, clerk and interpreter at the Registrar-General's office, declared that on the 11th April the defendant came to me and asked for a licence for a boarding house, at the same time stating that he would like to get it issued as quickly as possible. I was writing at my desk when I saw defendant place an envelope on it, and when I had finished my writing I picked it up and found that it contained \$5. I took the money to the Registrar-General, who subsequently had the defendant and his books brought before him. An entry of \$10 for a licence was found in his books, and Mr. Brewin asked him what it was. Defendant said he could not say, but afterwards he said—"Let me tell you the truth. It is true that I put the money on his desk, but I was afraid to tell you before because I did not know what would happen." Then Mr. Brewin said—"Why didn't you confess before," and I was told to go back to my desk.

In cross-examination—Whenever money is handed over to me, I take it together with the licence book and hand it to the shroff. The bond was signed on the 11th, and the licence granted on the 12th, when the money was paid to me. When the \$5 was placed on the counter I thought it was a trick, and I have to be very careful as I have an enemy who is always trying to get me into trouble. The issue of licences rests with the Registrar-General.

Further evidence was heard, after which Mr. Thomson contended that the defendant's connection with the shop had not been proved. The mere fact of his being in a boarding house where the books were was not evidence that he kept them. There was no evidence that defendant was the accountant, kept the books, or had any connection with the shop.

His Worship—On the evidence I take it that defendant should have explained certain entries to the Registrar-General. He applied for the licence, and his connection with the shop is undoubted.

Mr. Thomson—There is not proof that the entries in the books were made with the knowledge of the defendant.

Mr. Wood—Evidence has been brought to show that he is the representative of the firm in the dealing to which the entries in the book refer.

His Worship in summing up said he could not find under the circumstances that the defendant had any intention of offering the \$5 in payment of the licence, therefore he must find him guilty of offering a bribe contrary to the rules of honesty and integrity, and fine him in the amount of \$200, with the alternative of four months' imprisonment.

A DANGEROUS CARGO.

A native was charged before Mr. G. N. Orme at the Police Court on May 25th with sending or attempting to send dangerous goods to wit, gunpowder, to a port in China without distinctly marking the nature of the goods on the outside of the packages containing same; with not giving written instructions of the nature of such goods, or the address of the senders, to the owner or master of the s.s. *Chukong* at the time of taking same on board, and with sending or carrying on board goods to which a false trade description has been applied.

The powder was concealed in samshu jars, also in tea-pots and biscuit tins, and is believed to have been destined for West River pirates. The strange cargo was discovered secreted in a woman's cabin, when the lid of one of the tea-pots was opened.

His Worship fined the defendant \$100 on the first charge and \$250 on the second.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

AS SEEN IN VAN FONG BAY ON MAY 12.

(By our Special Correspondent.)

SAIGON, 13th May.

When I left Hongkong on the 8th inst. there were reports that the Baltic Fleet had left the coast of Annam in compliance with the protestations of the French authorities, and rumour alleged that Admiral Rozhdestvensky intended making for one of the Bays on the south-coast of Hainan. It so happened that we were calling at Hainan for cargo. Four hours after passing Gap Rook we sighted the German steamer *Forstech*, right out of the track of steamers coming from Saigon or Singapore. Her general appearance indicated her to be a collier. She looked very dirty and the fact that she was light in the water and still had her derricks up led me to conclude that she had just discharged a cargo of coal for the Baltic Fleet and that we would probably find the Russian armada somewhere south of Hainan.

We dropped anchor for the night at the Tinhosa anchorage, and the ship having transacted its business, we were able to leave the following morning at daybreak, making for Annam. We passed right across the entrance to Goalong Bay about half a mile to seaward, but there was no sign of the Russian Fleet or any other craft save a few fishing boats. Goalong Bay was surveyed some years ago by the Russians and a Russian chart, I believe, is commonly used by ship masters. It is a large bay with a sufficient depth of water to afford suitable anchorage for a fleet of warships. They were not there however, nor were they to be seen in Yulin Bay, which opened up shortly afterwards. A small wooden craft, the s.s. *Hainan*, which regularly trades in these waters had the whole of the bay to herself. Neither Goalong Bay nor Yulin Bay are good typhoon shelters except perhaps the small inner harbour of the latter bay where however the water is not deep enough for big warships.

Getting away from Hainan, and making for Tourane we ran into a dense fog and when it lifted the ship was found to be heading right into the Bay of Tourane. Only one cargo steamer was inside, but there was no indication here that the Baltic Fleet was anywhere in the neighbourhood, and as Tourane is an important township and centre of commerce with fine European buildings, including a Residency, a military hospital and the inevitable Custom House, and has besides a large fort outside the town, it is unlikely that the Russians would assemble here.

But it was not long after leaving Tourane that we came upon the Russian Fleet. Approaching the Three Kings we sighted the converted cruiser *Columbia*, just off the eastern end of Van Fong Bay. She was under weigh, but her engines were stopped. As we opened up Van Fong Bay seven battleships, one cruiser and two destroyers were in full view of our ships. The battleships were the *Borodino*, *Orel*, *Imperator Alexander III*, *Slava* and the *Kniaz Suvaroff* which are sister-ships with two funnels. The other battleships were the *Oslava* (three funnels), the *Sissoi Veliky* (two funnels) and the *Navarin* (four funnels in pairs abreast). The cruiser was the *Admiral Nakhimoff*, a one-funnel belted cruiser very well known in the East as she was on this station eight or ten years ago. The converted cruiser *Fuerst Bismarck* was scouting off the western end of the Bay.

Inside Three Kings Bluff—in Kua Bay—we saw the converted cruisers *Auguste Victoria* (three funnels) and *Petersburg* (two funnels), together with six cruisers and two colliers. I was unable to identify the cruisers as they were lying end on to us. I send you a sketch chart showing the position of the warships as I saw them lying in the Bay. [We publish a reproduction of this sketch herein as a supplement.] Where was the remainder of the Fleet? Possibly they were in the Bay too, for if they had been lying in Bing Koi Bay and Port Dayot they would have been concealed from our view. Another conjecture is that the other part of the Fleet was at sea, within touch perhaps, by wireless telegraphy. This subsequently

appeared the more likely theory, for as we passed the Bay the seven battleships and cruiser already named and the two destroyers steamed out of the harbour, heading towards the South-East in the following close formation:—

B	B	B	B
Petersburg	D	D	F. Bismarck
C	B	B	B

[KEY—B represents battleship; C, cruiser; D, destroyer.]

When the squadron came out the *Columbia* steamed into the Bay. The ships moved slowly and were evidently manoeuvring. Had my first supposition that the other ships of the Fleet were concealed in Port Dayot and Bing Koi Bay been correct, I should have expected to see them come out and join in the manoeuvres. But nothing was seen of them.

We passed Kamrahn Bay the same day at noon (12th inst.) and had a good view of it. There were no ships there—warships or mercantile craft.

Arriving at Cape St. James to-day (13th inst.), I counted fifteen colliers at anchor there and three a little way up the river. I was able to make out the following names:—

Tottd	Hanz Menzell
Asia	Crewits
Vesta	Hersalia
Hornsborg	Irmgard Horn
M cedonia	Pisa
Westfalen	Hornstein
Waglanda	Jupiter

Admiral Rozhdestvensky will not lack coal. On March 22nd it was reported from Aden that 34 steamers laden with more than 100,000 tons of coal for the Baltic Fleet were lying at the French port of Djibouti near Aden. All the ships now at Saigon were in that list of 34, but they constitute only half the number.

This reminds me of the report current in Hongkong when I left that the converted cruisers with the Baltic Fleet had coal stored on their decks. This was not the case when I saw them, but excepting the *Peterburg*, which was rather light, they were very deep in the water.

NEW TRADING CENTRES.

[Translated by the "P. & T. Times."]

A memorial has been submitted by Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai and Hu Ting-kan, ex-acting Governor of Shantung, with regard to the opening of Chinan as a commercial centre, and Wei-hsien and Chou-tsun as sub-ports. An office for the management of the affairs of the port has been established in Chinan and nine regulations drawn up for the guidance of the authorities. They are as follows:—

1. Definition of Boundary.—The port of Chinan is located to the west of the provincial capital, south of the Kiaochow-Chinan railway, about five li in length from east to west and two li from north to south. It covers an area of 400 mou. It is to be an international trade centre, all Powers being permitted to appoint representatives of trade; merchants and other people are to enjoy the privilege of leasing land. But foreign merchants will not be allowed to rent land or set up business at any place beyond the spot defined.

2. Lease of Land.—The land, whether owned by the Government or privately is to be surveyed and divided into sections, of which the price will be fixed according to its quality and situation. The houses and fields of the people will be purchased when required and leased to Chinese and foreign merchants through the officials, in order to avoid unreasonable demands. A notification will be issued to landlords and landrenters prohibiting private transactions. Landrenters must register the land they intend to rent.

3. Establishment.—The Taotai of Chinan, Tungchang, Tsian, Wuting and Linching will be appointed to manage international affairs. The principal establishments will be a Works Department, a Police Station, a Mixed Court, to be under the direction of a superintendent who will appoint deputies to attend the cases. A special official with experience of foreign affairs will be appointed as co-director and a foreigner may also be placed there either by the

Minister of Northern Trade, who is Viceroy Yuan, or the Governor of Shantung.

4. Construction.—Works of construction will have to be carried out in the matter of roads, drains, offices, prison, market, the boring of wells and the planting of trees. It will be important to have sanitary regulations and level roads.

5. Taxation.—Being an inland port Chinan differs from other ports and, therefore, the questions of Customs and so forth will not be considered until later. The funds for the upkeep of roads, police, light and sanitation will at first be raised by the Chinese officials. Taxes on houses, shops, carriages and carts will be levied on the lines of other ports, and both Chinese and foreign merchants will be charged.

6. Expenditure.—The necessarily large initial expenditure will be advanced by the Government.

7. Precautions.—The use of explosives or firearms, except by those in military service, will not be allowed, and any violation of the rule will be punished. Dynamite necessary for public works may be used but a permit must be obtained and the explosive not be retained for any length of time.

The remaining regulations state that telegraphs and telephones will be established by China and no concession will be granted to foreigners; Weihien and Chou-tsun are to be opened as sub-ports. The money required, it is suggested, shall be advanced from the customs revenue of Kiacchow deposited in the German Bank at Tsingtau, and Tls.170,000 having been sanctioned for the work to the Yellow River by Chou-Fu when he was Governor of Shantung, one half of the deposited balance will be used for opening the port.

The Wai Wu Pu is ordered to consider and report on the memorial.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PORTUGUESE AND FILIPINO FEUD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 19th May.

SIR,—I submit for your inspection a weapon recently taken from a Filipino youth who was concerned in a fracas against a Portuguese. There is a regular feud between the Portuguese and Filipino students at St. Joseph's College. The British magistrate said to the Portuguese: "I advise you not to go to that school. Don't get near those boys." The fact of a boarder carrying on his person such a knife shows that the surveillance at the College is not satisfactory. Yet St. Joseph's College was solely instituted for Portuguese and Roman Catholic Chinese boys. It was in the days of the Government Central School (now Queen's College) and St. Saviour's School (now St. Joseph's College) that owing to the exceedingly better education obtainable at the former institution many Portuguese and Catholic Chinese boys attended that school in preference to going to the St. Saviour's School. The two schools were directed respectively by the late Dr. Stewart and the late Bishop Raimondi. The latter gentleman rightly endeavoured to compete with and surpass, if possible, the energy of his colleague. In the Colony the Bishop could not find the desired teachers to rival those under Dr. Stewart; he had to take a trip to Rome, where he obtained the aid of His Holiness Pius IX. to procure a batch of Brothers of the Christian Schools to conduct the education of Portuguese and Catholic Chinese boys in order to prevent them going to a Protestant school. The St. Joseph's College was then built and handed over to the charge of the Christian Brothers. At that time and until recently (up to the time of the conquest of the Philippines by America) the Filipino element was unknown in the St. Joseph's College. A few Filipinos, at any one time not more than one dozen, who came to Hongkong previous to that date to seek English education, went to the Victoria English School kept by Mr. Braidwood, successor to Mr. and Mrs. Hanlon. Since the conquest of the Philippines a large number of Filipinos come over to this colony, a good proportion of whom bring people of pecuniary means. These, and others who remained in Manila, seeing the need of learning the English language, sent their boys to the

St. Joseph's College and their girls to the Italian Convent; I do not blame them for doing so. But the consequence has been that the Filipinos flooded the College whilst Portuguese boys for whom the College was created have been shut out. It should, however, have been apparent to the Brothers that the Portuguese and Filipino races cannot agree, from the many palpable facts that have taken place between them in and out of schools. The Filipinos are hot-blooded and it is their nature to resort to the *cuchillo* to settle their differences among themselves and also with others, no matter under what laws they are living. The Portuguese boys, on the other hand, are no cowards and will stand no nonsense from the Filipinos; hence the frequent fighting between the two races.

In my humble opinion, it stands to reason that seeing the great number of Portuguese boys attending the school at St. Joseph's College,—a College created for them—and seeing that they cannot agree with the Filipinos, the best way to prevent quarrels, and perhaps murder or amok by the latter, is to let a separate college be built exclusively for the benefit of Filipinos, and thus leaving more room and quietness for the Portuguese boys, who have a moral right to St. Joseph's College in preference to Filipinos.

I remain, sir, yours &c.
S. E. P.

AMERICAN BANK AT MANILA CLOSED.

The American Bank has been closed by order of Governor General Wright. The two bank examiners, E. W. Kenmerer, the commissioner of currency for the insular government, and B. F. Wright, of the insular treasury, after making certain investigations in connection with the bi-annual examination of all the banks in the archipelago, communicated with the Governor General, and as a result the following notice was posted behind the openwork door of the American Bank:

Manila, P. I. 18th May, 1905.

By direction of the Governor General and in accordance with Section 1, Act 556 of the United States Philippine Commission, the American Bank has been prohibited from doing a banking business in the Philippine Islands in view of the fact that its continuance in business in the receipt of deposits would involve probable loss to the depositors. The undersigned has taken possession of the bank's assets for the benefits of its creditors. Further information can be obtained at the office of the undersigned.

J. L. Barrett,

Acting Treasurer, Philippine Islands.

Government official in high position who is intimate with the financial condition of the bank said that it never should have been opened to begin with, and that it has been practically insolvent for some time. He stated further that although at present there was not enough money in the bank to pay more than one-quarter the deposits, yet when all was settled up the depositors would probably not be the losers. The shareholders, he said, would lose their money.

THE AMERICAN BOYCOTT AT SHANGHAI.

The Shanghai Daily News understands that Acting Consul-General Davidson has written a dispatch to the Shanghai Ta tai, with regard to the proposed boycott of American goods, etc., by Chinese, that it is his (Mr. Davidson's) opinion that there is some misunderstanding amongst the Chinese with reference to the tenor of the proposed new Exclusion Treaty, and that he would like the Taotai to invite as many of the principal Chinese merchants and members of the gentry in Shanghai to meet him at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, on a day to be set by the Taotai, where Acting Consul-General Davidson may address them and explain away all doubtful points concerning the proposed Treaty. Mr. Davidson further stated that he would also be glad to forward to his Government any petition that the Chinese merchants and gentry may desire to present to President Roosevelt.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Peking Times says that Wu Ting-fang has received many visits of congratulation from foreigners in connection with the new penal code, which is generally regarded as a most promising achievement and a good harbinger of the future. The officials of the Board of Punishment and also of the Peking police stations are much excited by the new prohibition against extorting evidence by torture, declaring that it will now be impossible for them to try any cases at all.

An additional Chinese Imperial Decree dated April 25th (amending the Penal Code) concluded:—We hereby repeat the order and command all Viceroys and Governors to give strict orders to the officials under them to show earnestness and true heartedness in the execution of laws and see that no officials merely observe this in theory but in practice act as heretofore. Let no friendship or favour be shown to any. All must exercise diligence in finding out abuses in the execution of the law and relieve all distress of the people, that our desire to deal kindly and justly with the people may be fulfilled.

The Asahi publishes a Shanghai telegram stating that at about 9 o'clock on May 8th two members of the editorial staff of the Dobun Koho, a Chinese paper published by the Japanese in Shanghai, were suddenly attacked by the Russian men-of-war's men in front of the office of the newspaper. One of the Japanese was stabbed in the back with a knife and the other in the stomach. Of late, says the telegram, the Russians in Shanghai are becoming more and more uncontrolled in their conduct. The Chinese guard maintained over the Russians is only nominal, and Japanese at Shanghai are exposed to great danger.

Yen Yu-chih, a philanthropist in Chinkiang, who had constantly been receiving gifts from high officials when he was managing charitable relief works, previous to his death, which took place last month, made a will by which Tls. 1,600 is given to a son who is personally afflicted, as a means of living, while the balance Tls. 270,000 is to be used for charitable purposes through a Chekiang gentleman who is left as trustee. He is the first Chinese who has made such a will; and it is to be hoped he will be the last. We cannot reasonably expect that his "afflicted" son will be a very devoted ancestor worshipper. Charity never had greater reason than here, we should say, to "begin at home."

The value of the gold produced in Formosa during 1904, amounted to 1,800,000 yen against 1,000,000 yen, the record for 1901. This shows the great progress the gold mining industry in that island has made during the past few years. The principal mines in the island, now being worked, are Shozuiho, Kinsoseki and Botanko, the annual production of each mine being valued at 500,000 or 600,000 yen. At Taito, Giran, Keelung, and some other places there are several mines now under trial boring, and in addition applications for working 15 other gold fields have recently been received by the authorities. The mountainous districts running through the middle of the island are believed to contain rich gold deposits, but investigations have not yet been made in this connection.

We are informed that on the May 20th in the road between the Hongkong Club and the Cricket Ground a serious accident was caused by a wire rope being stretched across the road from a tree within the enclosure to the bottom of another in the centre of the road. A gharry drawn by two ponies, drove along the road about half past nine from the direction of the Naval Yard, and came in contact with the rope. At its highest point the rope was only 5ft. 7in. above the ground. The hood of the gharry was ripped off and with it the driver as well as the mahfoo standing on the ledge behind. The ponies took fright and galloped off at great speed. Near the Queen's statue the fore part of the gharry parted company with the hinder part, and the ponies galloped on as far as the Star Ferry Wharf where they struggled to go in different directions, with the result that they brought the wreckage of the gharry up against some scaffolding poles and the ponies were securely held. The driver of the gharry was badly cut but the footman's injuries were not of a serious nature.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 17th May.—The first musters of Keemun were offered on the 15th instant and though business has been done no settlements have been reported:—

	1905.	1904.
Settlements...	nil.	119,846
The following are the statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season viz., 18th May, 1904:—		
	1905.	1904.
HANKOW TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements...	nil.	73,194
Stock ...	nil.	69,305
Arrivals ...	nil.	142,499
	1905.	1904.
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements...	nil.	46,652
Stock ...	nil.	59,549
Arrivals ...	34,416	106,201

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's Silk Circular, dated Shanghai, 13th May, 1905, states:—The home markets are firm, Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 11.4, and in Lyons at Fcs. 31.50. Raw Silk.—During the interval there has been a fair demand from Europe for Tsatlees, and prices have advanced all round. Stocks are very small and we shall probably see a further advance before the New Season's Silk is available. Yellow Silks.—Very little doing; stocks are reduced to some 800 bales principally composed of second and third choice Silk. Hand Filatures.—A large business has been done for America and the Continent, leaving the market almost bare of supplies. About 800 bales have changed hands. Steam Filatures.—Some 600 bales have been bought mostly fine sizes for Europe. Best grades are very scarce and are realizing high prices. Waste Silk.—There has been rather more inclination to buy, shown by the home markets, especially for Gum Wastes. About 100 piculs Filature Long Waste has been taken at Tls. 104 net to the filatures.

CANTON, 6th May, 1905.—First Crop.—Has been almost a failure, owing to the unusual cold and rainy weather, which has spoilt both the hatching and the mulberries; scarcely 1,500 bales will be available for export, quality and colour bad, and very hairy against 3,500 bales in 1904 and 5,500 bales in 1903. The weather is now favourable, and the prospects so far are promising for the 2nd crop. Long-reels.—The fortnight under review has been quieter, nevertheless the Dealers are not giving way in their prices. There has been some request for Filatures 18/22 and Natives 11/13-13/15-14/18, but it met a stock almost exhausted. From sales made we quote: Fils.—Wing Cheong Sing 11/13 at \$945; Yee Wo Loong 9/11 at \$935; Kai Lun Cheong 9/11 at \$930; Mee Kee 10/12 at \$920; Kwong Wo 10/12 at \$910; Kwong Shun Ching 11/13 at \$910; Ling Chai 11/13 at \$905; Wing Po Cheong 11/13 at \$875; Chun Sun Hang 13/15 at \$860; Wai King Wo 18/22 at \$780; Yee Wo Hing 13/15-14/18 at \$740. Short-reels.—Have continued in demand, but the small stock here has not responded to the large enquiry from America. \$867½ have been paid for Hau King Lon 14/16 and \$850 for Kwang Wo Tai 14/16. Waste Silk.—Notwithstanding the dull market prices are steady owing to the firmness of holders, and the scarcity of stocks. Stock at Silk in Canton: 800 bales.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG 26th May.—The prices are the same as when last reported.

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$8.90 to \$9.00 pels.
Do. " 2, White...	7.50 to 7.60 "
Do. " 1, Brown...	6.40 to 6.50 "
Do. " 2, Brown...	6.00 to 6.05 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	8.70 to 8.80 "
Do. " 2, White...	7.40 to 7.50 "
Do. " 1, Brown...	6.00 to 6.05 "
Do. " 2, Brown...	5.60 to 5.70 "
Foochow Sugar Candy...	12.50 to 12.30 "
Shekloong "	11.70 to 11.80 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 26th May.—The prices are declining market being weak.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.65 to \$2.70
" Round, good quality	4.05 to 4.10
" Long...	4.20 to 4.25
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.20 to 3.25
" Garden, " No. 1	3.30 to 3.35
" White,	4.25 to 4.30
" Fine Cargo	4.35 to 4.40

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 27th May.

Quotations are:— Allow'ce net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$1130	to	—	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1180	to	—	do.
Malwa Older	\$1240	to	—	do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1320	to	—	do.
Persian fine quality	\$980	to	—	do.
Persian extra fine	\$1000	to	—	do.
Patna New	\$1107½	to	—	per chest.
Patna Old	\$ —	to	—	do.
Benares New	\$1070	to	—	do.
Benares Old	\$ —	to	—	do.

COTTON.

HONGKONG 19th May.—With almost no change in rates a fair business has been done. Stock about 3,500 bales.

Bombay	\$19.00 to 21.00	per picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon	20.00 to 23.50	"
and Dacca	"	"
Shanghai and Japanese	25.00 to 26.50	"
Tungchow and Ningpo	25.00 to 26.50	"
Reported sales 750 bales.		

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., in their Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 18th May, 1905, state:—There is certainly no improvement to advise in the situation of our market, in fact the depression is becoming more emphasised, and everything is deadly dull. The same state of suspense that has been prevailing for weeks past still continues, the war dragging on with little indication of its likely termination in the near future, no important engagement having taken place for over a month now. Meanwhile the deleterious effects of the preparations for further operations are continuing to be felt by the trade in Newchwang, practically the whole of the available transport appliances being engaged by the Japanese troops at prices which the ordinary trader cannot touch. It is equally futile to attempt to ship via Chingwantao, as precisely the same conditions prevail at Hsiningtung and the cargo can go no further. Clearances of merchandise has, therefore, practically ceased for Newchwang and its neighbourhood, which is most disappointing, as the indications are that a very brisk business could be done but for these unfortunate interruptions. The temptation to contravene the neutrality laws by interested parties here—entirely unconnected with the regular trade of the Port—is causing a good deal of uneasiness in legitimate business circles; but it is hoped the precautions the authorities are taking to safeguard the best interests of the place will be sufficiently effective to obviate any outside interference. There are still sinister rumours of the threatened boycott of American goods in event of the proposed new Chinese Exclusion Treaty not being considerably modified, and we understand that during the interval some recommendation has been telegraphed to United States Government by Importers here to that end. With the obstructions to trade in the North and the consequent rapid accumulation of goods here, a very awkward situation could be caused if the threat were really carried out. It is not thought, however, that unless there is great provocation, there is likely to be any special action taken by the natives here, who are very little interested in the emigration question. It is satisfactory to note that in response to the invitation from the British Government to furnish proofs of the non-fulfilment of the Mackay Treaty, steps are being taken to enlighten the Authorities very effectually. It is confidently stated that no fresh orders for goods for the Hankow market have been received here since last September. The financial facilities there are greatly curtailed, the Banks refusing to grant more than a fraction of the former credit, and the merchants have consequently been forced to do likewise with their customers in the country, which has had a great deal too much rain. The export trade is diminished by the high exchange and the Tea crop is anything but promising. The one redeeming feature is the healthiness of the Tientsin trade. The demand there is brisk and the fairly free shipments from here have been going readily into consumption. Ningpo is showing some slight signs of life at last, but prices are far from satisfactory. The Manchester market is stronger if anything for staple goods, and any attempts to repeat orders are met with higher quotations. This seems to have had the effect of causing more attention being paid to Prints than for some time past, very fair orders having gone through for comparatively early delivery. Cotton is stronger, the latest Liverpool quotations being 4.40d. for mid. American and 6½d. for Egyptian. The Exports appear to be moderating, being only 18,000,000 yards of Plain Cottons for the fortnight ending the 12th inst.

The New York market is equally strong, in fact judging by the lack of offers a certain amount of indifference concerning this trade is now being felt. Cotton is higher, 7.70 cents for June and 7.80 cents for July. Piece Goods.—Outside of the Auctions there has been very little doing, although the stock of available cargo is increasing. Clearances latterly have shown a serious falling off, partly due no doubt to the excessively wet weather. The dealers are now calling attention to the semi-annual settling day, which falls about three weeks hence, and say that until then the market must be very quiet.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORT.

HONGKONG, 19th May.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN—		per bale	
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20,	\$ 90.00 to 128.00		
English—Nos. 16 to 24,	140.00 to 160.00		
" 22 to 24,	160.00 to 165.00		
" 28 to 32,	167.50 to 175.00		
" 38 to 42,	180.00 to 190.00		
Reported sales 10,000 bales.			
COTTON PIECE GOODS—		per piece	
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.25		
" 7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40		
" 8.4 lbs.	3.00 to 4.00		
" 9 to 10 lbs.	4.10 to 5.30		
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.80 to 3.00		
" 58 to 60 "	3.10 to 3.60		
" 64 to 66 "	3.80 to 5.40		
" Fine	6.10 to 8.00		
Book-folds	5.30 to 8.10		
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.00		
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	2.20 to 2.30		
" 7lbs. (32 "), "	2.70 to 3.00		
" 6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.25 to 2.70		
" 7lbs. (32 "), "	2.90 to 3.20		
" 8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.)	3.25 to 3.80		
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ "	5.10 to 8.00		
to 14 lbs.)			
FANCY COTTONS—		per yard	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.80 to 3.85		
Broc des -Dyed	0.12½ to 0.15		
Damasks	— to —		
Chintzes—Assorted	0.11 to 0.25		
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.45		
Velveteens—18 in.	0.22 to —		
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk		per dozen	
		0.57 to 0.89	
WOOLLENS—		per yard	
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.70 to 2.00		
German	0.60 to 0.95		
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 2.50		

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, May 17th, 1905.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 34.50
Do. Seconds	" 30.50
Buffalo hides, Best Selected	" 17.60
Goatskins, Untanned, chiefly white color	" 55.00
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	" 8.00
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 11.50
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 11.00
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" 13.00
Jute	" 4.65
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 9.40
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchew and/or Macheng	" 9.20
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" 8.00
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 11.00
Animal Tallow	" 9.50
Gallnuts, Usual shape	" 17.30
Do. Plum do.	" 18.30
Tobacco, Tingchow	" 7.50
Do. Wongkong	" 10.00
Black Bristles	" 110.00
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	" (nom.)
" " Wild Duck	" (")
Turneric	" 3.75
Sesamum Seed	" 4.20
Sesamum Seed Oil	" 8.40
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	" (nom.)
Wood Oil	" 8.00
Tea Oil	" 10.00

Per P. & O. steamer Chusan, sailed on 20th May. For London:—243 boxes tea, 646 boxes tea (from Foochow), 37 bales waste silk, 2 bales silks and silver ware, 2 packages sundries, 50 cases bristles, 3 cases bird feathers, 9 packages lacquer and curios, &c., 1 case cigars. For Manchester:—106 bales waste silk. For Barcelona:—63 rolls mats and matting. For Lyons:—161 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—2 cases feathers, 88 dales raw silk. For Gibraltar:—1 case silk goo s.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 29th May.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10 3/4
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10 1/4
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10 1/4
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11 1/4
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	
Credits 4 months' sight	237 1/2
ON GERMANY.—On demand	
193 1/2	
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	
Credits, 60 days' sight	46 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank, on demand	141 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank, on demand	141 1/2
ON HANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	
Private, 30 days' sight	71
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	
92 1/2	
ON MANILA.—On demand	
92 1/2	
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	
5 1/2 p.c.m.	
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	
113 1/2	
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	
1 1/2 p.c.m.	
ON SAIGON.—On demand	
1 1/2 p.c.m.	
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	
6 1/2	
SEVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	
\$10 15	
GOLD LEAF, 10 fine, per tael	
54 1/2	
BAR SILVER per oz.	
27 1/2	

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 26th May, 1905.—The continued slackness and restriction of business has affected rates during the week under review, and we have to report several declines. The market generally may be said to be a selling one, relieved only by a few occasional unimportant investing orders.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai ruled firm during the early part of the week and sales were made at \$796 and \$797 1/2; later, however, in sympathy with a sudden drop in the London rate to £79, the market weakened and sales were effected at \$792 1/2. The market closes fairly steady at that rate. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue on offer at \$695. China Traders have further improved their position, and after small sales at \$59, \$60 and \$61, close firm at the last rate. Cantons can be placed at \$315, but no sellers come forward. Yangtszes and North Chinas remain unchanged, and without business.

FOREIGN INSURANCES.—Small sales have been put through at \$300, but sellers rule the market at the close. Chinas have changed hands in small lots at \$36 and more could be placed at that rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao remain unchanged with a small business at \$27. Indo-China, notwithstanding a rise in the London rate of 5/- (to £12), have ruled very quiet with limited sales at \$124 cash and for the settlement; forward shares are on offer at equivalent rates but very little business has been transacted. The immediate future of the market depends a great deal on the dividend which is expected shortly to be declared; the latest quotation from Shanghai is Tls. 87. Douglasses could be placed at \$35, but no shares appear to be available. China and Manilas have changed hands at \$21 1/2 and \$22. Star Ferries and Shells are procurable at quotations, but we have no sales to report.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue unchanged with but little business. Small sales more or less forced have been made at \$220 and \$222, but the market is still in a more or less artificial condition. Luzons are still enquired for, but no shares are obtainable at the rate quoted.

MINING.—No change or business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued quiet with an inclination to weakness, in the absence of favourable news from the Sully field of operations; and, after small sales during the week at \$203, further shares could not be obtained at the rate, the market closing with sellers at \$203. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves having been quoted at the more or less nominal rate of "105 sellers" for some time, have found sellers willing to supply the market at the reduced rate of \$102 1/2, and although a few more shares could probably be placed, the market closes anything but strong at that rate. Farnhams have ruled quiet between \$155 and \$157 closing at the latter rate. New Amoy Docks unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands, after further small sales at \$125 and \$124 in the early part of the week, have declined to \$123, at which last rate the market closes with sellers. Hotels are rather easier with sellers at \$145 in place of buyers. Humphreys have ruled with sellers at \$13, and a sale is reported at \$12 1/2. Kowloon Lands, after further small sales at \$40, remain on offer at that rate.

COTTONS.—Ewos have been placed locally at \$36 1/2 and Hongkongs continue on offer at \$16 1/2 without sales, other quotations are taken from Shanghai.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos have been placed at \$13 and \$12 1/2. Electrics (old) at \$17.90 and Watsons at \$13. Hongkong Tramways are enquired for at \$215 and new Laundries at \$5. A few Steam Waterboats are on offer at \$17 1/2 and Green Islands (new) at \$16 1/2, while a small demand for the latter remains unsatisfied at \$16 1/2.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra		
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$79 1/2, buyers
National B. of China	\$7	\$37, buyers
Hell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$5 1/2, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$13, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$9, buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$8.60, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 36, sales
Hongkong	\$10	\$16 1/2, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 37 1/2, buyers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 40
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 180, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$17, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
Farnham, B. & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 157, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & Co.	\$50	\$103, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$203, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$21, sellers
Shanghai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 187
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$33 1/2, buyers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$26 1/2, sales
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$5	\$17, sales & sellers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$160, buyers
Do New	\$5	\$11 1/2, sales & buy.
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$215, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$145, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$24 1/2
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$50	\$152
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$17 1/2, sales & sel.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$81 1/2, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$86, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$61, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$300, sales & sel.
North China	\$5	Tls. 82
Union	\$100	\$695, sellers
Yangtsze	\$60	\$160
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$123, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$13, sellers
Do. New	\$10	\$13, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$40, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 119, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raubs	18.10	\$34, sellers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$9 1/2, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$222, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$30, buyers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$21 1/2, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$35, buyers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$27, sales
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	\$124, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	23s, sales
Do. Preference	\$10	\$8.10s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$37
Do. New	\$5	\$28, sellers
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$5 1/2	\$50
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$23, buyers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$7
Do. New	\$3	\$5, buyers
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10 1/2	\$36
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$11 1/2, sellers
Watsons	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$131, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9 1/2
Do. Founders	\$10	\$180

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset and Co.'s Share Report for the week ending May 18th, 1905, states:—We have to report a considerable business during the week under review, principally in Farnhams and Langkats. The market for the former has risen during the week about four points, while in Langkats there was a considerable fall owing to the announcement of the dividend for the quarter, payable on the 15th June, of Tls. 5. The T.T. sight rate on London to-day is 2/7 1/2. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. Shares have been placed locally at \$797, ex 72 1/2. Shares are still wanted in the South. Marine & Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas are very quiet. One transaction for June is reported at Tls. 92 and for cash at Tls. 90. Ordinary Tug Shares have been placed at Tls. 58 and Pref. at Tls. 48 1/2 and 47. Docks & Wharves.—S. C. Farnhams. The market opened on the 11th with sales at Tls. 154 for May; Tls. 156 for June; Tls. 157 1/2 July. On the 12th Tls. 157 1/2, 159 for July; on the 13th Tls. 156 for cash; Tls. 158/60 for June; Tls. 163 for September. On the 15th Tls. 158 for May; Tls. 164 1/2 for September. On the 16th Tls. 158 for May, Tls. 161 for June and Tls. 165/66 for September. On the 17th Tls. 159 for cash, Tls. 163/163 1/2/164 for July; Tls. 165 August and Tls. 168, 167 1/2 September. At closing the market is easier with July shares offering at Tls. 162 1/2. S. & H. Wharf Co. The market has been fairly steady with an upward tendency during the week. Cash shares have been placed at Tls. 157; for July Tls. 194/195; August Tls. 197 1/2; September Tls. 191/195 and Tls. 97 1/2, and for October Tls. 196 1/2 and 200. The Market closes quiet. Sugars.—Peraks have been placed at Tls. 60, and 70 for September. Mining.—A transaction in Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. Shares is reported at Tls. 7.35. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 116 and 117 1/2. The market is steady at the last quotation. Industrial.—In Cotton stocks Laou-kung-mows have been placed at Tls. 40; Ewos at Tls. 37 1/2. At closing a transaction is reported in Ewos at Tls. 35; this is for a very small lot. Paper and Pulp have been placed at Tls. 45 1/2 for cash and Tls. 157 1/2 July. Major Bros. changed hands at Tls. 65. Shanghai Ices at Tls. 25. Langkats. The market opened on the 11th and 12th with sales for cash at Tls. 235; 240 June; 242 1/2 July. On the 13th shares changed hands at Tls. 235 May; Tls. 235 1/2, 235 June; Tls. 238/37 1/2 July and on the 15th Tls. 235 for cash and May; Tls. 237 1/2 June; Tls. 240/39/38 1/2 July; Tls. 241 August; Tls. 243 1/2 September; Tls. 247 1/2 October. On the 16th, the day on which the directors advertised that a month hence a second interim dividend of Tls. 5 per share would be paid, the market showed a disappointment of shareholders by falling to Tls. 217 1/2 cash with sales for May at Tls. 220 and 217 1/2; June 222 1/2 and 220; July Tls. 23 1/2/27 1/2/25; August Tls. 225; September Tls. 237 1/2 and 225. On the 17th the price strengthened and cash shares were purchased at Tls. 220 and 221, with sales for May at Tls. 220; Tls. 225 June; Tls. 225/27 1/2 July; August Tls. 227 1/2 and 230; September Tls. 230 and October Tls. 235. At closing the market shows a continued improvement, and offers for shares are wanted. Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 67 1/2, 68, and 72 1/2 July. Stores & Hotels.—Astor House have been placed at \$30, 31 1/2, 33 and 34; there are sellers at the latter rate; \$35 1/2 September. Weeks have been placed at \$19, 19 1/2 and again at \$19. Lane and Crawfords changed hands at \$145. Miscellaneous.—Horse Bazaars were placed at Tls. 80. Telephones at Tls. 68. Loans & Debentures.—Municipal 6 per cent. debenture at Tls. 98, and Perak Sugar 7 per cent. at Tls. 98.

FREIGHTS.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Freight Market Report, dated Shanghai 11th May, 1905, states:—Our Homeward Freight Market remains about the same with no improvement to speak of. For New York via Suez, cargo is still very scarce, but will of course improve a great deal on the opening of the Tea season which, however, is still some way off. In connection with this we may note that the rumours that the rates on Tea were to be raised to 36-0 and perhaps 37-6 via Suez, and to 1 1/2 cents gold via the Pacific, were without foundation, as we now hear definitely that the rates will remain as before. Coastwise.—This market is not as strong as at last writing, and coal freights particularly are weak, having dropped from \$2.00 to \$1.25, Moji to Shanghai. This drop is due entirely to the lack of stocks in Japan, as handy steamers for this trade are not over plentiful. We may here notify coal shippers that from the 1st May the extra harbour dues at Wakamatsu have been raised from 5 sen to 10 sen per ton on the steamer's dead weight capacity.

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

May—

ARRIVALS.

18, Loongmoon, German str., from Chinkiang.
 18, Werneth Hall, British str., from Moji.
 19, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 19, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Glory, British battleship, from Mirs Bay.
 19, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 19, Hogue, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
 19, Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
 19, Purnea, British str., from Singapore.
 19, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 19, Wuhu, British str., from Wuhu.
 21, Arabia, German str., from Moji.
 20, Bonaventure, British str., from Mirs Bay.
 20, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
 20, Clara Jebson, German str., from Swatow.
 20, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 20, Heimdal, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
 20, Indravelli, British str., from Chinwantao.
 20, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 20, Thos. Turnbull, British str., from Cardiff.
 21, Baron Fairlie, British str., from Moji.
 21, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 21, Dardanus, British str., from Shanghai.
 21, Hector, British str., from Liverpool.
 21, Hue, French str., from Kwangchauwan.
 21, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 21, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
 21, Paoting, British str., from Shanghai.
 21, Thyra, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 22, Elis. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 22, Glenstrae, British str., from London.
 22, Foosling, British str., from Canton.
 22, Hong Bee, British str., from Singapore.
 22, Isleworth, British str., from Saigon.
 22, Kwangsi, French str., from Anvers.
 22, Manica, British str., from London.
 22, Mercedes, British collier, from Mirs Bay.
 22, Putney Bridge, British str., from Cardiff.
 22, Queen Cristina, British str., from Mororan.
 22, Roon, German str., from Yokohama.
 22, Thyra, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 22, Yatshing, British str., from Canton.
 22, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 22, Zafro, British str., from Manila.
 23, Anamba, Danish str., from Kohsiachang.
 23, Carl Mensell, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.
 23, Emprs. of China, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 23, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 23, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 23, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 23, Ibadan, British str., from Bangkok.
 23, Lydia, German str., from Wuhu.
 23, Monmouthshire, British str., from London.
 23, Volute, British str., from Balik Papin.
 23, Waishing, British str., from Wuhu.
 24, Albion, British battleship, from Mirs Bay.
 24, Fiume, German str., from Saigon.
 24, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
 24, Kansu, British str., from Tientsin.
 24, Manchuria, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 24, Nippon, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 24, Zieten, German str., from Bremen.
 25, Aberlour, British str., from Hamburg.
 25, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Swatow.
 25, Heim, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 25, Hupeh, British str., from Wuhu.
 25, Hyson, British str., from Liverpool.
 25, Promise, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 25, Proteus, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
 25, Silda, Norwegian str., from Kuchinotsu.
 25, Sungkiang, British str., from Amoy.
 25, Proteus, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
 26, Esang, British str., from Tientsin.
 26, H. Mensell, German str., from Shanghai.
 26, Holstein, German str., from Hoihow.
 26, Johanne, German str., from Bangkok.
 26, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
 26, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 26, Lydia, German str., from Canton.
 26, Paoting, British str., from Canton.
 26, Tean, British str., from Manila.
 26, Triumph, German str., from Shanghai.
 26, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Bonaventure, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
 26, Tonemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 27, Aragonia, German str., from Portland.
 27, Bianca, German str., from Singapore.
 27, B. Bjornson, Norwegian str., from Amping.
 27, Clio, British sloop, from Manila.
 27, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
 27, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 27, Palma, British str., from London.
 27, St. Kilda, British str., from Kuchinotsu.
 27, Wuhu, British str., from Canton.

28, Chunsang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 28, Glaucus, British str., from Liverpool.
 28, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Kansu, British str., from Canton.
 28, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 28, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Macassar.

May—

DEPARTURES.

19, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Brigavia, German str., for Shanghai.
 19, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Derwent, British str., for Hongay.
 19, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 19, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 19, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Tolosan, German str., for Saigon.
 20, Aligate, British str., for Moji.
 20, Brand, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 20, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 20, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 20, Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.
 20, Heathburn, British str., for Iloilo.
 20, Hellas, German str., for Shanghai.
 20, Hongkong, French str., for Pakhoi.
 20, Kowloon, German str., for Hongay.
 21, Laertes, British str., for London.
 20, Onsang, British str., for Singapore.
 20, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 20, Wuhu, British str., for Canton.
 21, Athens, British str., for Manila.
 21, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Tamsui.
 21, Heimdal, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 21, Indravelli, British str., for Durban.
 21, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.
 21, Neumuhl'n, German str., for Singapore.
 21, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
 21, West York, British barque, for Rajang.
 22, Atholl, British str., for New York.
 22, Hector, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Arabia, German str., for Portland.
 23, Clara Jebson, German str., for Shanghai.
 23, Gregory Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
 23, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 23, Hyades, American str., for Tacoma.
 23, Isleworth, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Manica, British str., for Nagasaki.
 23, Paoting, British str., for Canton.
 23, Purnea, British str., for Amoy.
 23, Ribera, British str., for Moulmein.
 23, Szechuen, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 23, Yatshing, British str., for Foochow.
 23, Zoroaster, Brit. str., for Christmas Island.
 24, Albion, British battleship, for Mirs Bay.
 24, Athenian, British str., for Vancouver.
 24, Dardanus, British str., for London.
 24, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 24, Glory, British battleship, for Mirs Bay.
 24, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 24, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
 24, Hogue, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
 24, Hong Bee, British str., for Amoy.
 24, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 24, Roon, German str., for Europe.
 24, Wongki, German str., for Swatow.
 25, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.
 25, Callao, U.S. gunboat, for Canton.
 25, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 25, Changsha, British str., for Kobe.
 25, Feiching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 25, Foosling, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Glenstrae, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
 25, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., for Yokohama.
 25, Paklat, German str., for Bangkok.
 25, Putney Bridge, British str., for Japan.
 25, Thyra, Norwegian str., for Kutchinotsu.
 25, Werneth Hall, British str., for Saigon.
 25, Zieten, German str., for Shanghai.
 26, Hupeh, British str., for Canton.
 26, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
 26, Nippon, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 26, Stanley Dollar, British str., for Kelun.
 26, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 26, Volute, British str., for Palembang.
 26, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 27, Esang, British str., for Canton.
 27, Hyson, British str., for Nagasaki.
 27, Koungsi, French str., for Shanghai.
 27, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 27, Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Queen Cristina, British str., for Batavia.
 27, Yochow, British str., for Canton.
 27, Zafro, British str., for Manila.
 28, Aberlour, British str., for Kobe.
 28, Anamba, Danish str., for Touron.
 28, Baron Fairlie, British str., for Calcutta.
 28, Elis. Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.

28, Emma Luyken, German str., for Swatow.
 28, Fiume, German str., for Kobe.
 28, Hermann Mensell, Ger. str., for Canton.
 28, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 28, Proteus, Norwegian str., for Tamsui.
 28, Wuhu, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Messrs. A. Morley, A. S. Baker, Mrs. Pearson and child, Messrs. P. L. Pennezel and J. D. Hutchinson, Colonel Western, Mr. H. Albert, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Lammert; for Singapore, Miss A. Fichboun; for Marseilles, Messrs. C. P. Abels, S. Ralsy, and Louis Wigelin; for London, Mrs. Wm. McNaughton and infant, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Emberley and 3 children, Mrs. P. de T. Evan, Messrs. A. Walker, D. M. Lennan, and John Henderson: from Kobe for Bombay, Mr. R. Dharamai.

Per *Roon*, for Hongkong from Yokohama, Messrs. A. P. Goodwin and L. Mas; from Kobe, Messrs. Oppleton Smith and J. Henry; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Tompkins; from Shanghai, Messrs. H. J. C. Larges, F. Bonnet, Mr. and Mrs. Schroeter, Miss A. Otter, Messrs. C. W. Mead, W. Burns Paye, J. Stone, A. C. Kohler, E. C. Ma, Mrs. Le pere, Mrs. Zwillinger, Messrs. J. Maury, Minzer, O. Chopard, Sofia, Maschinist Dietrich, Chablis, Mrs. F. R. Cappell, and Mr. L. Garino.

Per *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Cooks, Messrs. A. B. Gray, T. G. Turnbull, J. M. Coyne, A. C. Van Vorst, and J. H. Facey; from Yokohama, Messrs. G. F. Assomull, V. W. Assomull, D. N. Assomull, Lieut. Weston, N. Rev. G. M. Waters, Miss Stilwell, Mrs. C. G. Dicken, Mr. H. Gross, Capt. and Mrs. Nugent, Mrs. J. Parsons, Col. Reynolds and daughter, Miss Jamieson, Messrs. H. J. McQuade and H. M. Maitland, Chief Justice and Mrs. Piggott; from Kobe, Capt. Geo. Longhorn, Miss Longhorn, Messrs. J. Cox Fillan and A. McKinlay; from Shanghai, Messrs. J. J. C. White and E. G. Turner.

Per *Manchuria*, from San Francisco, &c., Rev. R. E. Armstrong, Messrs. L. C. Bishop, C. A. Black, Miss Douglass Bomar, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Cotterman, Miss Nana Cotterman, Dr. J. I. Davis, Mr. R. G. Dieck, Dr. W. F. Dunlap, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Douglass, Mrs. G. Douglass, Miss May Fawcote, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Edwards, Mrs. L. Ferguson, Dr. H. C. Fleming, Mr. O. H. Heiser, Miss E. I. Hicks, Miss E. Howard, Mr. C. R. King, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Kline, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hager, Rev. P. McHale, Mr. Thos. E. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. S. Silverstone, Messrs. M. D. Silverstone, A. H. Silverstone, M. L. Silverstone, Mr. and Mrs. A. Sprout, Miss Alisa Sprout, Miss Emily Sprout, Miss Martha Sprout, Mrs. J. G. Sweeney, Miss Sue Sweeney, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Van Vorhis, Mr. R. J. Van Vorhis, Mr. A. C. Vrooman, Mrs. H. P. Wheat and son, Messrs. E. Waterhouse, B. G. Holt, J. R. Elliott, R. N. Graham, W. U. Caldwell, A. J. Cowdray, E. Balio, F. Robledo, Mrs. G. L. Bradley, Mrs. A. R. Eddy, Mrs. E. T. McCormick, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Newton, Messrs. W. B. Wells, E. J. Byrne, A. J. Almutt, H. Gangriwalla, G. W. Beattie, K. Seko, Capt. C. C. Smith, U.S.A., Mr. Geo. Watson, Mrs. S. P. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Hutchinson, Mrs. H. Forbes, Miss E. B. Forbes, Mrs. B. M. Holman, Mrs. M. E. Sawyer, Messrs. S. H. Michaels, S. J. Michaels, F. M. Sonnenthal, Gideon, and Lieut. A. F. Parsons, U.S.N.

DEPARTED.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai for London, Mr. and Mrs. Ma Naughton and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Emberley and family, Mrs. P. de T. Evans, Messrs. A. Walker, D. McLennan and John Henderson; for Marseilles, Messrs. C. P. Abel, S. Raby, and Louis Wegelin; from Kobe for Bombay, Mr. R. Dharamai; from Hongkong for London, Mrs. G. V. Donald and family, Messrs. A. Wilkinson, A. J. Clark, W. A. Barnett, Walter Smith, B. T. Finch, C. Pemberton, A. R. Lowe, H. Jewitt and W. McAnslan; for Marseilles, Mr. A. E. Fearley; for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Sauvage and family, Lieut. Leukie; for Colombo, Rev. Canon Margoschis; for Penang, Mr. D. C. McDougall; for Singapore, Miss Clark and Mr. F. T. Gause.

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